

Commonwealth of Virginia State Preparedness Report

**Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Emergency Management
March 21, 2008**



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I. Executive Summary

Since the terrorist attacks of 9/11 and subsequent events both locally and nationally, the Commonwealth of Virginia has worked diligently to make all-hazards preparedness a top priority. In 2002, Governor Warner established the Secure Virginia Initiative, subsequently renamed the Secure Commonwealth Initiative. As outlined in Executive Order 07, this Initiative states:

The Secure Commonwealth Initiative is charged with ensuring a safe, secure and prepared Virginia by developing and overseeing a coordinated prevention, preparedness, and recovery strategy for natural and man-made disasters and emergencies, including terrorist attacks, that encompasses Federal, State, local, and private entities and the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Virginia is continually building upon the foundation established by this Executive Order, devoting as many resources as possible to the development of capabilities that will sustain a robust and forward-thinking all-hazards preparedness program. The following State Preparedness Report provides not only an overview of Virginia's accomplishments to date, it also encompasses the vision and goals set forth by the Commonwealth and the National Priorities. The accomplishments, capabilities, targets, initiatives, and resources herein reflect Virginia's specific needs while fully aligning with ongoing Federal government standards.

The findings and information presented within this report draw from a wide variety of sources, including the *Virginia Homeland Security Strategic Plan*, the *Virginia NIMS Cast*, and the *Virginia Enhancement Plan* (as amended in March 2007), the *Virginia Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan* and annual grant monitoring reports. Firsthand information was also gathered from key leaders representing each of the discussed priorities. To ensure the capabilities, accomplishments, and targets for each locality were depicted thoroughly and accurately, a series of workshops were held in each of the seven homeland security regions across the Commonwealth. These one-day workshops provided a forum for open discussion and allowed each locality to present its preparedness information directly to the Virginia Department of Emergency Management.

Each component of this report supports the long term vision for Virginia's security, with a particular focus on

- Implementation of NIMS
- Expanded regional collaboration
- Implementation of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan
- Strengthening of information sharing and collaboration
- Strengthening of interoperable and operable communications capabilities
- Strengthening of CBRNE detection, response and decontamination capabilities
- Strengthening of medical surge and mass prophylaxis capabilities
- Strengthen planning and citizen preparedness capabilities

With continued commitment to an all-hazards approach strategy, the Commonwealth has been able to better coordinate and optimize emergency management operations between State

agencies, localities, not-for-profit organizations, private industries, and the citizenry. The interrelated plans and systems discussed below are the foundation upon which Virginia is continuing to build a comprehensive program for protecting the lives and property of its citizenry. The Commonwealth is extremely aware of this tremendous responsibility and is striving to achieve the highest levels of preparedness and responsiveness possible for all emergency and disaster situations.

II. State Overview

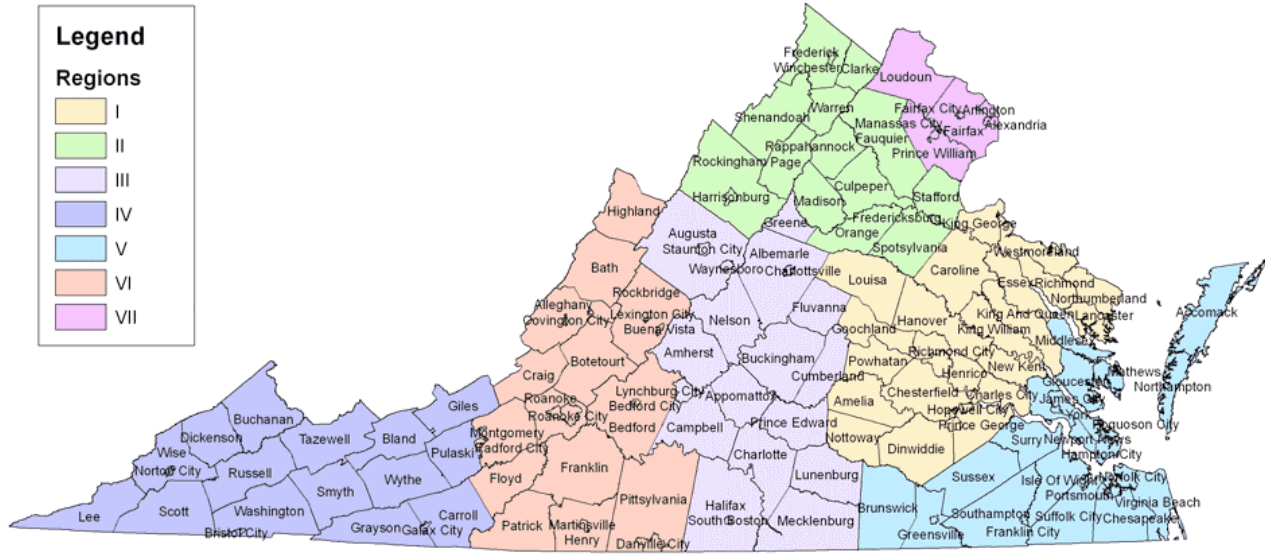
State Background

Commonwealth of Virginia Profile:

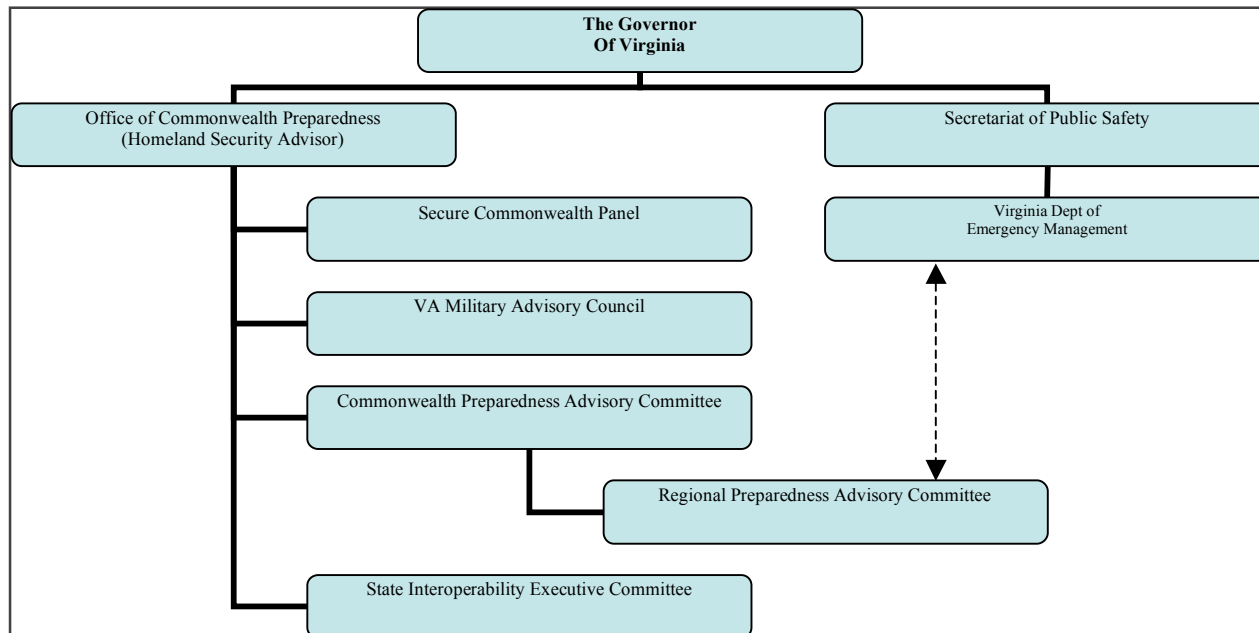
Characteristic	Description
Virginia Population (source: 2006 Census)	7,642,884
UASI Population (Tier I)	National Capital Region: 1,987,884 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Arlington County ○ Fairfax County ○ Loudoun County ○ Prince William County ○ City of Alexandria ○ City of Fairfax
UASI Population (Tier II)	Hampton Roads 1,565,306 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ City of Norfolk ○ City of Virginia Beach ○ City of Newport News ○ City of Hampton ○ City of Chesapeake ○ City of Portsmouth ○ City of Franklin ○ Southampton County ○ Isle of Wight County ○ Surry County ○ James City County (City of Williamsburg) ○ Gloucester County ○ York County ○ Suffolk County Richmond MSA (new UASI 2008) 1,181,097 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Amelia County ○ Caroline County ○ Charles City County ○ Chesterfield County ○ Cumberland County ○ Dinwiddie County ○ Goochland County ○ Hanover County ○ Henrico County ○ King and Queen County ○ King William County

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Louisa County ○ New Kent County ○ Powhatan County ○ Prince George County ○ Sussex County ○ City of Colonial Heights ○ City of Hopewell ○ City of Petersburg ○ City of Richmond
Location of State	Virginia is a Mid-Atlantic State bordered by Maryland on the North, West Virginia on the North/North West, Kentucky and Tennessee on the far west and North Carolina to the South. The District of Columbia is also contingent to the Commonwealth of Virginia.
Centers of Population	The highest density population of Virginia is shaped in a crescent. Beginning at the top of the crescent in Northern Virginia, continuing down the I-95 South corridor to Richmond and then east along I-64 to Virginia Beach. The three Virginia UASIs comprise 62% of the population of the Commonwealth yet only 24% of the total land area.
Industries	Service Sector – including computer and data processing Agricultural Coal production (10 th in the nation) 29 Fortune 500 companies (10 th in the nation) Military bases (largest concentration in US) Computer Chips/Communications/Internet Providers
Transportation	Airports – Five major airports Roads – 68,429 miles roads (3 rd largest highway system in US) including I-95 and the Capital Area Beltway Tunnels/Bridges – Three tunnel/bridge systems including the 23 mile Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel Train – Amtrak and Virginia Rail Express Ferries
Key Ports	3 large ports – including the Hampton Roads port which is the 3 rd largest port on the east coast
Common Hazards	Terrorism Hurricanes Floods/Ice Storms
Regional Structure	Virginia is divided into seven Homeland Security regions. The National Capital Region localities comprise Region VII, the Hampton Roads UASI comprise most of Region V and the Richmond Area UASI comprise most of Region I.

Virginia Homeland Security Planning Regions



Governance



The **Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)** is the agency responsible for coordination of the Commonwealth's emergency preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities. In the context of these activities, VDEM assumes the primary and pivotal role in planning, training, exercising, and integrating the various statewide entities and their emergency management strategies and activities. Through a cadre of funding initiatives, mutual aid agreements, training and exercise programs, performance reviews, capability assessments, risk assessments and target identification, VDEM works to coordinate and integrate planning and response activities of all invested parties within Virginia.

The Local Support Services Division (LSS) of VDEM has seven **regional coordinators** that work with local officials and emergency management coordinators to assist and support localities in their all-hazard planning and response efforts. It is the responsibility of the LSS regional coordinators to begin guiding the localities toward a regionalized approach to emergency management. The seven homeland security regions delineated by VDEM were designed to correspond with the regions established by the Virginia State Police (VSP). Each of the VDEM LSS regional coordinators work with the satellite offices of the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) in planning, training, exercises, and response to emergency situations and to support local emergency management activities.

With the Executive branch, the **Office of Commonwealth Preparedness (OCP)** coordinates all agencies involved in the State's homeland security efforts (including prevention, vulnerability reduction, response, and recovery). This office reports to the Governor and works with Federal, State, and local officials, as well as the private sector, to develop well-coordinated all-hazards preparedness strategies and plans. Members of OCP help facilitate communications between the Governor, local governments, and first responders regarding issues of emergency prevention,

preparedness, response, and recovery. In particular, the OCP focuses on continuity of operations planning, interoperability, National Capital Region (NCR) coordination and initiatives, critical infrastructure protection, grants coordination, and the Virginia Higher Education Preparedness Consortium.

The OCP also serves as a liaison between the Governor and DHS and provides oversight, coordination, and review of all disaster, emergency management, and terrorism management plans for the Commonwealth and its agencies. The OCP represents the Governor for all regional efforts to develop a coordinated security and preparedness strategy, including representation within the NCR security group (which is part of the Urban Areas Security Initiative). In addition to the above responsibilities, the OCP convenes the Secure Commonwealth Panel, established by Governor Mark Warner in Executive Order #69 on May 3, 2004. For more information on the OCP, visit <http://www.ocp.virginia.gov/Initiatives/index.cfm>.

The **Secure Commonwealth Panel (SCP)** is an advisory board within the executive branch of Virginia's government, reporting directly to the OCP. The 29-member Panel is charged with monitoring and assessing implementation of statewide deterrence, prevention, response, and recovery initiatives, as well as for reviewing, evaluating and making recommendations pertaining to the security and emergency preparedness of government at all levels in Virginia. The Panel is also responsible for facilitating cabinet-level security and emergency preparedness coordination among multiple State agencies and the private sector. Additionally, the Panel prepares a comprehensive strategic plan outlining the status of ongoing statewide efforts to manage physical, economic, and societal risks and recommends strategies for future activities.

The SCP meets monthly and is divided into nine sub-panels covering all areas of activities in the State (Agribusiness, Citizens and Community, First Responders, Government Operations and Funding, Health and Medical, Industry and Commerce, Technology, Transportation, and Utilities). The panel makes real-time recommendations to the Governor to improve the Commonwealth's security and preparedness and assists with legislation and implementation of approved recommendations.

The **Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group (CPWG)** is an operations team of State agencies that meets regularly to assess the State's preparedness and capabilities. These partners coordinate, develop, and implement policies for funding and operations relating to all-hazards preparedness. The CPWG serves as the interagency State level coordination mechanism for Virginia's applications for preparedness-related grants that flow to and through the State. Working Group representatives are members of the Office of the Secretary of Public Safety, Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, Virginia State Police, Department of Emergency Management, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Department of Military Affairs, Department of Fire Programs, Department of Transportation, Department of Criminal Justice Services, Capitol Police, and Commerce and Trade. This group serves the Secure Commonwealth Initiative by meeting regularly and developing recommendations for the Secure Commonwealth Panel and the Governor. It is also through the CPWG that VDEM serves as the Commonwealth's designated State Administrative Agency (SAA).

Under the Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group, there are seven **Regional Preparedness Advisory Committees (RPACs)**. These Committees are located throughout the Commonwealth based on homeland security regions I-VII. The Committees meet regularly and focus on regional initiatives in training, equipment, communication, and strategy to ensure access to response teams during emergencies and to facilitate testing, training, and exercises for mass casualty preparedness. Membership for each RPAC includes representatives from emergency management, fire, law enforcement, local government, the private sector and institutions of higher learning. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management LSS regional coordinators are active participants in these meetings.

The **Virginia Military Advisory Council (VMAC)** was established to maintain a cooperative and constructive relationship between the Commonwealth and the leadership of the Armed Forces of the United States. VMAC's mission extends to the military commanders stationed in the Commonwealth, where they work together to encourage regular communication on continued military facility viability, the exploration of privatization opportunities, and the resolution of issues affecting preparedness, public safety and security.

The **State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC)**, which has been operating since 2004, serves as the steering group for the CIC (discussed below) and makes recommendations for the distribution of federal grants funds to localities for voice and data communication projects. The SIEC consists of 13 representatives from regional, local and State public safety associations and government. This group includes the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police, Virginia Fire Chiefs Association, Virginia Sheriffs' Association, Virginia Association of Governmental EMS Administrators, and Virginia Association of Public Safety Communication Officials. The SIEC, in conjunction with the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator, updates and finalizes the Virginia Strategic Plan for Statewide Interoperable Communications on an annual basis. The SIEC was established by Governor's Executive Order 30 and has been codified during the 2008 Virginia General Assembly session.

Stakeholder Input

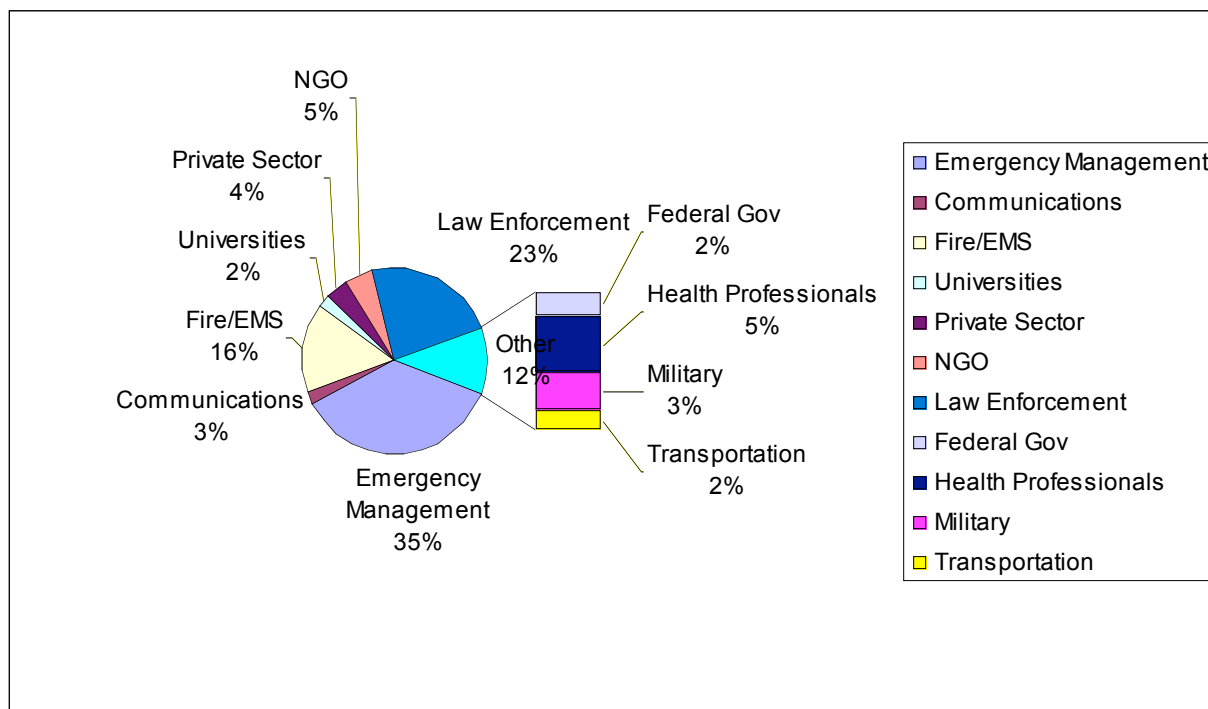
The State Preparedness Report Guidance Appendix E: Items to Address in the Current Capabilities was used as the guide for gathering the data for this report.

The first step in the data collection process was to identify all State level program managers with responsibility for any of the Target Capabilities/National Priorities. Using the questions found in Appendix E, each was interviewed and all relevant reports were gathered for incorporation into the State Preparedness Report. However, the executive leadership of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and Office of Commonwealth Preparedness felt that relying on this information alone was not sufficient. Because much of the program implementation falls to local government and their partners, a series of workshops were held to engage local responders, citizens, businesses and non-governmental organizations. This became the second step in the data collection process.

In late November and early December 2007, meetings were held in each of the seven homeland security regions. Invitations to participate in these meetings were sent to all locality Emergency Managers, any grant sub-recipients, members of the Regional Preparedness Advisory

Committees and all UASI committee members. The result was that nearly 400 stakeholder participated in the seven regional meetings. The participants represented a wide variety of preparedness professionals as well as private sector, transportation, military, health, universities and representatives from the Federal government.

The chart below shows the distribution of participation by discipline.



The workshop schedule was as follows:

Date	Location	Region
Tuesday, Nov. 27	Alexandria	Region VII
Thursday, Nov. 29	Farmville	Region III
Monday, Dec. 3	Hampton Roads	Region V
Tuesday, Dec. 4	Harrisonburg	Region II
Wednesday, Dec. 5	Abingdon	Region IV
Thursday, Dec. 6	Lynchburg	Region VI
Friday, Dec. 7	Chesterfield	Region I

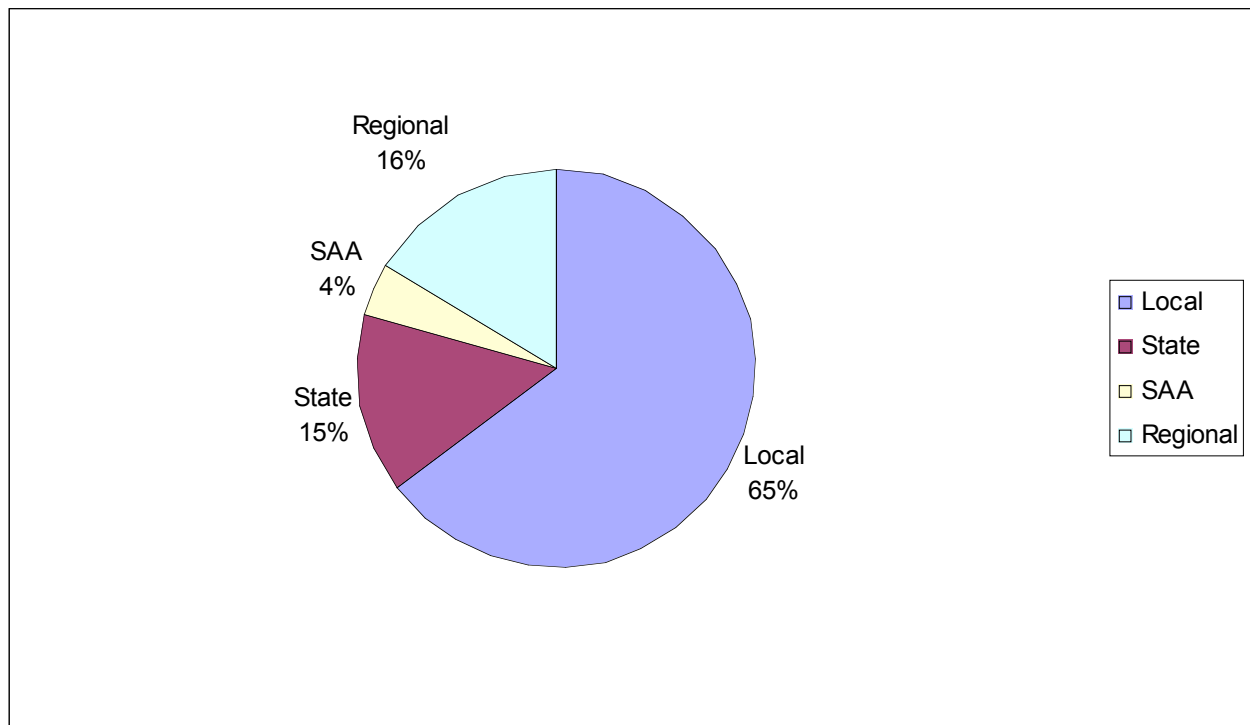
For each session, registrants were given the option of participating in one of six following breakout groups:

- Regional Collaboration
- Communications (Interoperability/Citizen Notifications)
- CBRNE Detection, Response, and Decontamination
- Strengthening Planning (Citizen Preparedness and Continuity of Operations)
- Evacuation, Shelter-in-Place, and Mass Care

- Critical Resource Logistics

In the mornings, each breakout session had a discussion, guided by a facilitator, which focused on accomplishments made since 2002, the capabilities that resulted from these accomplishments, objectives for 2010, and initiatives being taken to meet those goals. All discussion points were captured by a note-taker and incorporated into a summary report outlining the key points from the day. In order to share findings and ensure all relevant information was included in this report, each breakout group shared its findings with the entire audience at the end of the afternoon. This stakeholder input was essential for including not just statewide information, but regional and local information and perspectives as well.

The breakout by local, State, regional or State Administrative Agency is in the table below. As intended, the local participants (Fire/EMS, Law enforcement, private sector and non-governmental entities) were the majority of the participants in the development of the State Preparedness Report.



The final step was to engage all regional participants and State level program managers in a review of the first draft of the Virginia State Preparedness Report. Because the Targets and Initiatives described in this report will influence the investments for upcoming federal grant applications, it was important that all interested parties have an opportunity to comment on and understand the priorities.

III. Compliance

NIMSCAST Report

Enclosed please find the NIMS Compliance Status Report for the Commonwealth of Virginia. This report reflects the Commonwealth's implementation of all required ("Tier 1") activities and affirmative responses to the associated performance measurement metrics. Compliance determinations are based on the Commonwealth's ability to respond affirmatively to metrics associated with Tier 1 activities. Tier 2 activities represent possible future year activities and are not considered critical for current year compliance. Where appropriate, Virginia has referenced the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) to address weaknesses in implementation activities. Resolution of all CAPs must be provided to the FEMA Regional NIMS Point of Contact (POC) and to the Incident Management Systems Division (IMSD) by January 28, 2008.

Report Criteria:

Report:	Comprehensive Scores
Data Snapshot:	2007-09-24 - (Current Assessment Data Set)
Show Notes:	yes
Show Only Tier 1:	no
Show Only Uncompliant:	no
Report Version:	short

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

1. Formal Adoption	Date Saved: 2007-08-30
Has the State/territory formally adopted NIMS as the all-hazards, incident management system for implementation by all State/territory-level departments and/or agencies?	
<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	
If "Yes," what legal authority was used to adopt NIMS: [Check all that apply.]	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Executive Order	

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

2. Promotion and Encouragement

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

For each of the following, indicate to which groups and with which methods the State/territory has promoted and encouraged the adoption of NIMS: [Check all that apply.]

	Meetings (e.g., committees, conferences, working groups, etc.)	Mailings (e.g., newsletters, letters, etc.)	Email or other electronic means (e.g., websites)	Exercises (e.g., drills, tabletop, full-scale)	Other methods used to promote and encourage the adoption of NIMS	No methods used
Associations (e.g., professional organization or trade associations)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Critical Infrastructure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Utilities (e.g., transportation, electric, water)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private sector incident management and response organizations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-governmental organizations (NGOs)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State/territorial departments and/or agencies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Describe efforts made to promote and encourage NIMS adoption:

Multiple settings have been used and a wide variety of documents have been produced and distributed in both manual(mail, etc.) and electronic versions to all constituents and subordinate groups.

Which of the following impedes the promotion and encouragement of NIMS adoption: [Check all that apply.]

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

- ☒ Funding
- ☒ Training
- ☒ Education

3. Monitoring Tribal/Local Adoption

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

To what extent does the State/territory monitor the formal adoption of NIMS of NIMS for Local Jurisdictions

- ☒ All local jurisdictions have been monitored for formal NIMS adoption, and periodic monitoring is ongoing

To what extent does the State/territory monitor the formal adoption of NIMS of NIMS for Tribal Jurisdictions

- ☐ Not Applicable
- ☐ No effort has been made towards monitoring adoption of NIMS
- ☐ Developed procedures to monitor NIMS adoption, but tribal jurisdictions have NOT been monitored
- ☐ All tribal jurisdictions have been monitored for formal NIMS adoption, and periodic monitoring is ongoing

Notes:

N/A There are no recognized tribes in the Commonwealth.

4. Quantify Tribal/Local Adoption

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

In the table below, indicate the number of jurisdictions that have formally adopted NIMS:

	Jurisdictions that have adopted NIMS	Total number of jurisdictions
Local	134	134
Tribal	0	0

Which of the following impedes the adoption of NIMS for local jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Funding

Which of the following impedes the adoption of NIMS for tribal jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ No impediments exist

Notes:

There are no recognized tribes in the Commonwealth.

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

5. Establish Process to Communicate, Monitor and Implement NIMS Date Saved: 2007-08-30

Has the State/territory developed a process to communicate, monitor, and implement NIMS requirements to the following: (Note: If tribal jurisdictions do not apply, indicate "N/A.")

	State/Territory	Local	Tribal
Communicate NIMS requirements	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A
Develop a NIMS implementation strategy (e.g. schedules, tables, etc.)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A

Which of the following impedes establishing a process to communicate, monitor and implement NIMS requirements: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Personnel
- ☒ Funding
- ☒ Training
- ☒ Education

6. State/Territory NIMS Coordinator Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Has the State/territory designated a single point of contact within the State/territorial government with the authority to serve as the principal coordinator for overall statewide NIMS implementation?

☒ Yes

If "Yes," who has been designated?

Name of Designee	Michael M. Cline
Title of Designee	State Coordinator of EM
Email Address of Designee	michael.cline@vdem.virginia.gov
Phone Number of Designee	(804) 897-6500
Street	Virginia Dept. of Emergency Management
Street Continued	10501 Trade Court
City	Richmond
State Abbreviation (e.g. KY)	VA
Zipcode	23236
Date of Appointment	11/01/2005

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

7. Funding Linked to FY06 NIMS Implementation Requirements

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

Does the State/territory monitor compliance with FY06 NIMS implementation requirements as a condition to distribute DHS funding and other Federal preparedness funding to the following:

State/territorial agencies:

	Yes	No, explain:
DHS Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Federal Preparedness Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes monitoring compliance with FY06 NIMS implementation requirements for the State/Territory: [Check all that apply.]

☒ Personnel

☒ Funding

Has the State/territory completed NIMCAST?

☒ Yes

If "No," which of the following impedes completing NIMCAST: [Check all that apply.]

☐ Plans

☐ Policy

☐ Personnel

☐ Funding

☐ Training

☐ Exercise

☐ Education

☐ Other impediments, explain:

Local jurisdictions:

	Yes	No, explain:
DHS Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Federal Preparedness Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes monitoring compliance with FY06 NIMS implementation requirements for Local Jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

☒ Personnel

☒ Funding

Tribal jurisdictions:

	Yes	No, explain:	N/A
DHS Funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

**Other Federal
Preparedness Funding**



Which of the following impedes monitoring compliance with FY06 NIMS implementation requirements for Tribal Jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

- ☐ No impediments exist
- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

8. NIMS Compliance Review as a Part of Grant Related Audits

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Does the State/territory review State/territorial departments and/or agencies NIMS compliance as a part State/territorial audits of:

State/territorial departments and/or agencies:

	Yes, explain:	No, explain:
DHS Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>State departments are surveyed regarding NIMS compliance status.</i>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Federal Preparedness Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>State departments are surveyed regarding NIMS compliance status.</i>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes the State/territorial review of NIMS compliance for State/territorial departments and/or agencies: [Check all that apply.]

☒ **Personnel**

☒ **Funding**

Local jurisdictions:

	Yes, explain:	No, explain:
DHS Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>State departments are surveyed regarding NIMS compliance status.</i>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Federal Preparedness Funding	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>State departments are surveyed regarding NIMS compliance status.</i>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes the State/territorial review of NIMS compliance for local jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

☒ **Personnel**

☒ **Funding**

Tribal jurisdictions:

	Yes, explain:	No, explain:	N/A
DHS Funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>There are no recognized tribes in Virginia.</i>	<input type="radio"/>
Other Federal Preparedness Funding	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>There are no recognized tribes in Virginia.</i>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes the State/territorial review of NIMS compliance for tribal jurisdictions: [Check all that apply.]

☐ **No impediments exist**

☐ **Plans**

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

9. Monitor and Assess Outreach and Implementation of NIMS

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

Has the State/territory monitored and assessed outreach and implementation of NIMS requirements for the following:

	State/Territory	Local	Tribal
Conduct a baseline assessment for the implementation of NIMS requirements	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A
Develop a strategy for full NIMS implementation and monitoring	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="radio"/> N/A

If any "No," which of the following impedes monitoring and assessing outreach and implementation of NIMS requirements: [Check all that apply.]

- ☐ No impediments exist
- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

Section 1 Metrics: State Adoption and Infrastructure

10. Departments/Agencies NIMS Coordinator

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Has the State/territory required departments and/or agencies identified within the State/territorial NIMS implementation plan to designate a single point of contact as principal coordinator for NIMS implementation?

☒ Yes

If "Yes," indicate in the table below the number of principal coordinators for NIMS implementation:

Number of NIMS principal coordinators	Total number of departments and/or agencies
115	115

1. Implementation of NIMS-Prescribed ICS for All-Hazards Incident Response

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does the State/territory implement NIMS-prescribed ICS for all-hazards incident response?

☒ Yes

If "No," which of the following impedes implementation: [Check all that apply.]

- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

2. Implementation of NIMS-Prescribed ICS for Preplanned Events

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

Does the State/territory implement NIMS-prescribed ICS for managing preplanned events?

☒ Yes

If "No," which of the following impedes implementation: [Check all that apply.]

- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

3. Consistent Application of Incident Action Planning

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does ICS implementation include the consistent application of incident action planning?☒ Yes

If "No," which of the following impedes the consistent application of incident action planning:
[Check all that apply.]

- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Exercise
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

4. Consistent Application of Common Communications Plans

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does ICS implementation include the consistent application of common communications plans?☒ No

If "No," which of the following impedes the consistent application of common communication plans:
[Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Plans
- ☒ Funding
- ☒ Training
- ☒ Exercise
- ☒ Other impediments, explain:

Lack of exercises to flex interoperable communications between agencies. No common communications plan exists for statewide communications systems.

5. Incident Action Plan Concepts

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Do incident action plans incorporate the following ICS concepts:

	Yes	No, explain:
Designation of measurable objectives	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Designation of command staff positions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Manageable span of control	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Clear chain of command	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Use of plain language	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 2 Metrics: Command and Management

6. Communication Plan Components

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Do common communication plans address:

	Yes	No, explain:
Utilization of communications equipment and facilities assigned to the incident	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Installation of and testing of all communications equipment	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Supervision and operation of the incident communications	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Distribution and recovery of communications equipment assigned to incident personnel	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Maintenance and repair of communications equipment on site	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Notes:

Plans exist for operations between the State EOC, state agencies and local jurisdictions.

7. Encouraging Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACS)

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Which of the following does the State/territory provide to encourage the use of (multi-agency coordination systems (MACS)):

	Yes	No, explain:
Framework (e.g., organizational capacities, state EOPs, state disaster plans)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Training Curriculum	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exercises	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 2 Metrics: Command and Management

8. Designation or Utilization of Multi-Agency Coordination Systems

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does the State/territory designate or utilize MACS for:

	Yes, explain how a MACS has been successfully utilized:	No
Preplanned Events (Recurring/Special)	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>Jamestown 2007 400th Anniversary, Visit by HRH Queen Elizabeth II in May 2007</i>	<input type="radio"/>
Incident-specific Hazards	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>Tropical Storm Ernesto 2006 and various Haz Mat and Search & Rescue events annually.</i>	<input type="radio"/>
No-notice Events	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>Various events such as Town of Goshen water line breaks, Virginia Tech shootings.</i>	<input type="radio"/>
Specific Events	<input checked="" type="radio"/> <i>Governatorial and Presidential Inaugurations, and various tropical storms and hurricanes.</i>	<input type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes establishing a MACS: [Check all that apply.]



Other impediments, explain:

Our state EOC operates 24/7/365 and can be quickly staffed to support various events on short notice.

9. MACS Functions Coordinated by State/Territory

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Which of the following primary functions is coordinated by a State/territory MACS: [Check all that apply]



Situation assessment



Critical resource acquisition and allocation



Local/tribal, state/territory, and Federal disaster coordination



Coordination with elected and appointed officials



Coordination of summary information



Incident priority determination



Other functions that state/territorial MACS provide, explain:

Coordination with private partners and volunteer organizations.

Section 2 Metrics: Command and Management

10. Public Information System (PIS) Included in Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Does the State/territorial Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) include processes and procedures for utilizing a Public Information System (PIS), including establishment of a Joint Information System (JIS) and a Joint Information Center (JIC) as incidents dictate?

☒ Yes

If "Yes," how many out of how many individuals are trained in utilizing the PIS?

20 / 50

Notes:

On the job training is conducted during exercises and actual events. No specific training curricula exists at this time.

11. Types of Information That PIS Can Gather, Verify, Coordinate and Disseminate

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

During incidents, can the PIS gather, verify, coordinate, and disseminate the following types of information: [Check all that apply.]

	Gather	Verify	Coordinate	Disseminate
Critical Emergency Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Crisis Communication	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Public Affairs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Other types of information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Describe other types of information, if applicable.

Early Alerting System messages for weather and other disaster related events as authorized by the Governor or national authorities.

Section 3 Metrics: Preparedness Planning

1. NIMS Baseline Established	Date Saved: 2007-09-18																								
<p>Has a State/territory-level NIMS baseline been established for FY05 and/or FY06?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p>If "Yes," what tool was used?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> NIMCAST</p>																									
2. Utilization of Federal Preparedness Funding to Improve NIMS Preparedness and Response Activities																									
<p>Has the State/territory utilized Federal preparedness funding to improve NIMS preparedness and response activities?</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> Yes</p> <p>If "Yes," indicate the Federal preparedness funding sources used?</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DHS, specify funding sources: HSGP, LETPP, CIPP,</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Federal preparedness funding</p>																									
3. Quantify State/Territory Department/Agencies that have Incorporated NIMS with Emergency Management or Response Functions																									
<p>Indicate in the table below the number of State/territorial departments and/or agencies with an emergency management or emergency response function that have incorporated NIMS into the following activities:</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 35%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%;">Number of departments and/or agencies that have incorporated NIMS</th> <th style="width: 35%;">Total number of departments and/or agencies</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Planning</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Training Programs</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Response Activities</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Exercise Program</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Equipment Acquisition</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Evaluations</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Corrective Actions</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> <td style="text-align: center;">41</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Number of departments and/or agencies that have incorporated NIMS	Total number of departments and/or agencies	Planning	41	41	Training Programs	41	41	Response Activities	41	41	Exercise Program	41	41	Equipment Acquisition	41	41	Evaluations	41	41	Corrective Actions	41	41
	Number of departments and/or agencies that have incorporated NIMS	Total number of departments and/or agencies																							
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Response Activities	41	41																							
Exercise Program	41	41																							
Equipment Acquisition	41	41																							
Evaluations	41	41																							
Corrective Actions	41	41																							

Section 3 Metrics: Preparedness Planning

4. Extent of NIMS Concepts/Principles Incorporation

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

To what extent have the following NIMS concepts and principles been incorporated into incident management policies and SOPs/SOGs:

	Not Incorporated	Partially Incorporated	Fully Incorporated
Flexibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Scalability	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Standardization	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Interoperability & Compatibility	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

5. Integration of Plans with Federal Response as Described in NRP

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

During an incident, can the following plans be integrated with the Federal response as described in the NRP:

	Yes	No, explain:
State Emergency Operations Plan (EOP)	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other plans	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Explain other plans:		

6. Promotion of Intrastate and interagency Mutual Aid Agreements

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

What actions have been taken by the State/territory to promote intrastate and interagency mutual aid agreements: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Developed working groups and/or committees
- ☒ Signed Memorandum of Understanding/Memorandum of Agreement
- ☒ Engaged in regular correspondence via phone/email
- ☒ Developed mutual aid templates
- ☒ Communicated the benefits of mutual aid to state/territorial departments and/or agencies
- ☒ Other actions taken by the state/territory to promote intrastate and interagency mutual aid agreements, explain:

EMAC / Statewide Mutual Aid program and team development.

Which of the following impedes promoting intrastate and interagency mutual aid agreements: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Other impediments, explain:

Statewide Mutual Aid programs and agreement have been in place for many years. This program is currently being updated to meet current requirements of NIMS, NRF, etc.

Section 3 Metrics: Preparedness Planning

7. Promotion of Mutual Aid Agreements with Private Sector and NGOs

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

What actions have been taken by the State/territory to promote mutual aid agreements with private sector and non-governmental organizations: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Developed working groups and/or committees
- ☒ Signed Memorandum of Understanding/Memorandum of Agreement
- ☒ Engaged in regular correspondence via phone/email
- ☒ Other actions taken by the state/territory to promote mutual aid agreements with private sector and non-governmental organizations, explain:

Private sector organizations have been incorporated into the state EOC augmentation and information sharing processes.

8. Types of Mutual Aid Agreements Trained and/or Exercised

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Indicate the types of mutual aid agreements that the State/territory has trained and/or exercised:

	Interstate	Intrastate	Interagency
Training	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Exercises	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Section 4 Metrics: Preparedness Training

1. Training conformation to NIMS National Standard Curriculum

Date Saved: 2007-08-30

Does State/territory NIMS-related training conform to the NIMS National Standard Curriculum?

☒ Yes

If "No," which of the following impedes NIMS-related training from conforming to the NIMS National Standard Curriculum: [Check all that apply.]

- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Organization
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

2. Quantity of Facilities Used to Deliver NIMS Training

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Indicate in the table below the type and number of facilities currently being utilized to deliver NIMS training.

	Number of Facilities Utilized	Total Number of Available Facilities
Community College	28	28
Fire/Rescue Training Facilities	37	52
Police Training Facilities	13	13
Other Training Facilities	22	43

Which of the following impedes utilizing facilities to deliver NIMS training: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Training
- ☒ Personnel
- ☒ Funding

Section 4 Metrics: Preparedness Training

3. Communicate, Coordinate and Track NIMS Training				Date Saved: 2007-08-30
The State/territory has: [Check all that apply.]				
	State/territorial departments and/or agencies	Local jurisdictions	Tribal jurisdictions	Other emergency response organizations
Communicated NIMS training requirements to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Explain any unchecked boxes:	<i>There are no tribes in the Commonwealth.</i>			
Communicated NIMS training delivery mechanisms (online courses, classroom settings, etc.) to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Explain any unchecked boxes:	<i>There are no tribes in the Commonwealth.</i>			
Coordinated multiple NIMS training delivery mechanisms to:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Explain any unchecked boxes:	<i>There are no tribes in the Commonwealth.</i>			
Established a mechanism to receive and track NIMS training results from:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explain any unchecked boxes:	<i>There are no tribes in the Commonwealth. Only training provided by state agencies is currently tracked.</i>			
Established a mechanism to document status of NIMS trained personnel from:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Explain any unchecked boxes:	<i>There are no tribes in the Commonwealth. Only training provided by state agencies is currently tracked.</i>			

Section 4 Metrics: Preparedness Training

4. Document Training Status of Personnel				Date Saved: 2007-08-30	
Does the State/territory document training status of personnel from:					
	Yes	No	Not Applicable		
State/territorial departments and/or agencies	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
Local jurisdictions	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
Tribal jurisdictions	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>		
Other emergency response organizations	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>			
Notes: <i>Only if state agency provided training is completed.</i>					
5. Quantify Trained Personnel				Date Saved: 2007-09-21	
In the following table, indicate the number of people trained in the following courses (out of the total number of people identified): [Gray boxes are not applicable.]					
	Entry-level first responders	First line supervisors	Middle Management	Command and General Staff	Personnel trained as trainers
IS-700	14227 / 18240	2086 / 2675	1517 / 1945	283 / 364	
IS-800			1512 / 1945	279 / 364	
ICS-100	14203 / 18240	2057 / 2675	1502 / 1945	275 / 364	270 / 300
ICS-200	503 / 18240	2055 / 2675	1702 / 1945	313 / 364	270 / 300
ICS-300			1567 / 1945	293 / 364	270 / 300
ICS-400			307 / 1945	284 / 364	270 / 300
Other Training	/	/	/	/	/
Notes: <i>Trainers reflects all available state "certified" instructors who can be utilized to train state personnel.</i>					

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

1. NIMS/ICS Incorporated into Exercises		Date Saved: 2007-09-18
Into which of the following activities are NIMS/ICS incorporated:		
	Training	Exercises
State/territory Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Regional Level	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Which of the following impedes incorporating NIMS/ICS into State/territory and regional training and exercises: [Check all that apply.] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Funding <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Training 		

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

2. Quantity of Exercises that Evaluate NIMS Implementation		Date Saved: 2007-09-21
Indicate the number of exercises of each type that evaluate NIMS implementation during the exercise:		
	# of exercises	
Drills	3	
Tabletop Exercises (TTX)	8	
Functional Exercises (FE)	5	
Full-Scale Exercises (FSE)	3	
Other types of exercises in which NIMS has been implemented	0	
Total number of Exercises	19	
If other types of exercises specified, explain: <i>Seminars and Workshops are also conducted.</i>		
Which of the following NIMS components are evaluated through the exercises: [Check all that apply.] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Preparedness <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Communication and Information Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Command and Management <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mutual Aid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interoperability <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Participation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private industry 		
How have each of these exercises been evaluated for effectiveness of NIMS implementation? Explain: <i>HSEEP Guidelines and Document used to guide all exercises.</i>		
Which of the following impedes evaluating NIMS implementation during exercises: [Check all that apply.] <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No impediments exist 		

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

3. Existence of an All-Hazard Exercise Program

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Does the State/territory have an all-hazards exercise program?

☒ **Yes**

If "No," which of the following impedes developing an all-hazards exercise program: [Check all that apply.]

☐ **Plans**

☐ **Personnel**

☐ **Funding**

☐ **Education**

☐ **Training**

☐ **Other impediments, explain:**

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

4. Quantity of Exercises with Multi-Disciplinary and/or Multi-Jurisdictional Component

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Indicate the number of exercises that involve a multi-disciplinary and/or multi-jurisdictional component:

	FEMA Region	Multi-State	Intrastate	Other
Multi-disciplinary	1	3	17	0
Multi-jurisdictional	1	3	17	0

Of these, in which of the following types of exercises has NIMS been implemented as the all-hazards, incident management system: [Check all that apply.]

	Drills	Tabletop Exercises	Functional Exercises	Full-Scale Exercises	Other	None
Multi-disciplinary	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Multi-jurisdictional	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Explain how these exercises evaluate the effectiveness of NIMS implementation:

HSEEP guidelines and document are used.

What number of exercises used HSEEP methodology? (Out of total number of exercises)

17 / 17

If State/territory does not participate in multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-disciplinary, all-hazards exercises, explain:

Which of the following disciplines are included in multi-disciplinary exercises that evaluate NIMS implementation: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Public Works
- ☒ Health and Medical
- ☒ Fire/Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT)
- ☒ Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
- ☒ Law Enforcement
- ☒ Search and Rescue
- ☒ Animal Control and Veterinary Health
- ☒ Incident Management

Which of the following impedes the implementation of NIMS in training and exercises: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Funding

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

5. Quantity of Exercises Requiring Activation of NRP in FY06

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

During FY06, how many State/territorial exercise scenarios required the activation of the (National Response Plan (NRP))? (Out of a total number of exercise scenarios)

6 / 17

6. FY07 Exercises Incorporating Activation of NRP

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Are exercises being planned in FY07 that are expected to require the activation of the National Response Plan?

☒ Yes

7. After Action Reports and/or Lessons Learned

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Do State/territorial departments and/or agencies develop after action reports and/or lessons learned following exercises?

☒ Yes

Which of the following impedes developing after action reports and/or lessons learned: [Check all that apply.]

☐ Plans

☐ Policy

☐ Personnel

☐ Funding

☐ Education

☐ Training

☐ Other impediments, explain:

Notes:

Awaiting full integration of the Corrective Action Plan (CAP) portion of the HSEEP Toolkit.

Section 5 Metrics: Preparedness Exercises

8. Incorporation of Corrective Action Plans, After Action Reports, and/or Lessons Learned

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

State/territorial departments and/or agencies incorporate corrective action plans, after action reports, and/or lessons learned into which of the following: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Preparedness plans
- ☒ Response plans
- ☒ Response procedures
- ☒ Recovery plans and procedures

Which of the following impedes incorporating corrective action plans, after action reports, and/or lessons learned: [Check all that apply.]

- ☒ Personnel
- ☒ Funding

9. Maintenance of Correction Action Program

Date Saved: 2007-09-18

Does the State/territory utilize improvement plans and after action reports to maintain a Corrective Action Program?

☒ Yes

Notes:

HSEEP Toolkit is used.

1. Inventory of Response Assets

Date Saved: 2007-09-21

Has the State/territory inventoried its response resources?☒ No**If "No," which of the following impedes inventorying response resources: [Check all that apply.]**

- ☒ Personnel
- ☒ Training
- ☒ Funding
- ☒ Education

Reason for Non-Compliance:

An inventory is still in progress. Levels of response have been good from most agencies but some have not responded. Training and education is required to ensure compliance with resource requests. Competing interests impede the collection of data.

Corrective Action:

Inventory efforts are on-going to complete consolidation of agency data into a master database in a usable formats.

Expected Date of Compliance: 01/28/2008**Point of Contact:** Kenny Hayes - VDEM

2. Response Asset Inventory Developed

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Has the State/territory developed a response asset inventory?☒ Yes**If "No," which of the following impedes developing a response asset inventory: [Check all that apply.]**

- ☐ Plans
- ☐ Policy
- ☐ Personnel
- ☐ Equipment
- ☐ Training
- ☐ Funding
- ☐ Education
- ☐ Other impediments, explain:

Section 6 Metrics: Resource Management

3. Resource Typing for Response Assets

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does the State/territory use resource typing for response assets?

☒ Yes

If "Yes," has the State/territory typed its response assets to conform to DHS standards, as identified by the NIC?

☒ No, explain:

Process is on-going to collect data fro various state agencies.

4. Number of Local/Tribal Jurisdictions that have Provided Inventory of Resources

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Indicate in the table below the number of jurisdictions that have provided an inventory of resources to the State/territory:

	Number of jurisdictions that have provided an inventory of resources	Total number of jurisdictions
Local	45	134
Tribal	0	0

Are these resources typed in accordance with NIMS?

☒ No

Which of the following impedes the adoption of resource typing: [Check all that apply.]

☒ Federal Standards

☒ Education

☒ Other impediments, explain:

Training & education stil required on teh typing process and typing tools needed that are functional.

If more than one impediment checked, identify the greatest impediment:

5. Acquisition Adoption of Interoperability Standards

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

To what extent does the State/territory require its acquisitions and purchases to adopt interoperable standards:

	Not Required	Partially Required	Fully Required
Equipment	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Communications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Data	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes acquisitions and purchases from adopting interoperable standards: [Check all that apply.]

☒ No impediments exist

Section 6 Metrics: Resource Management

6. Incorporation of Standard Equipment List and Other Federal Standards Data

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

To what extent does the State/territory's current acquisition program incorporate the Standard Equipment List (SEL) and other Federal equipment standards data when purchasing interoperable equipment:

☒ **Partially Incorporated**

7. State Validation of Inventory

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Has the State/territory validated the inventory of response assets?

☒ **Yes**

If "Yes," does the inventory conform to homeland security resource typing standards?

☒ **Yes**

8. Utilization of Response Asset Inventory

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Does the State/territory utilize the response asset inventory for:

	Yes	No, explain:
Mutual Aid	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Exercises	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Actual Events	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Section 7 Metrics: Communication and Information Management

1. Implementation of Communication Standards During Multi-Agency and/or Multi-Jurisdictional Events

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

During a multi-jurisdictional and/or multi-agency event, to what extent does the State/territory implement the following communication standards:

	Not Implemented	Partially Implemented	Fully Implemented
Plain Language	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Standardized terminology in response operations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Standardized terminology in publications	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

Which of the following impedes implementing communication standards: [Check all that apply.]

☒ No impediments exist

2. Methods to Ensure Consistent and Accurate Information During Incident

Date Saved: 2007-09-13

Which of the following has the State/territory developed to present consistent and accurate information during an incident:

	Systems	Tools	Processes
Communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Intelligence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Information Management	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Information Sharing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Resource Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

IV. Priorities

National Priority 1: Implement the NIMS and NRF

A. Accomplishments

Adoption of NIMS by Local Jurisdictions

Virginia has adopted NIMS (under executive order) as the all-hazards incident management system for all State-level departments and agencies. All local jurisdictions have been (and are currently being) monitored by the State to ensure the adoption of NIMS, and at this time, all 139 jurisdictions within Virginia have complied.

VDEM's Office of Training and Exercises, in collaboration with its State training partners, provides guidance and resources needed to achieve the 17 requirements for local NIMS compliance and the 23 requirements for State-level NIMS compliance. The Commonwealth has also put in place the updates for 2007 and will require State agencies (that receive and distribute State and Federal funding to localities for emergency and disaster preparedness activities) to use performance measures to objectively measure progress.

EMAP Accreditation

Having met the standards for EMAP accreditation, the State has successfully completed the NEMB-CAP assessment. Currently, the emergency management functions (EMFs) outlined in the EMAP process are being fully utilized and incorporated into VDEM emergency management programs, training and exercises, and response activities. The EMFs, along with NIMS and the NRF, are also the underlying organizational principles for coordinated activities across the State.

Full EMAP accreditation is a testament to the State's compliance with NEMB-CAP. VDEM continues to work closely with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, the Department of Health, the National Guard, Department of Transportation, Department of Forestry, and the State Police to further progress toward regionalizing all-hazards systems of preparedness and response and optimizing available funding to provide the greatest good across the State. Furthermore, the Recovery & Mitigation and the Operations Divisions have transitioned from emergency and disaster specific processes to implementation and utilization of an all-hazards approach, using the structure provided by ICS, NIMS, and the NRF to coordinate activities across jurisdictions and entities.

NIMS Coordinators

Since November 1, 2005, Mr. Michael M. Cline has served as the State Coordinator of Emergency Management as well as the principle coordinator for statewide NIMS implementation. In addition, each of the Commonwealth's 115 departments and/or agencies has designated an individual to serve as principle coordinator for NIMS.

Baseline Assessment and Strategy

The Commonwealth conducted a baseline assessment of the implementation of NIMS requirements throughout Virginia. In addition, a strategy was developed for NIMS implementation and monitoring and the Commonwealth has plans in place for the use of communications equipment and facilities, the testing of equipment, the supervision and operation of incident communications, the distribution of equipment assigned to personnel, and the maintenance and repair of equipment on site.

Multi-Agency Coordination Systems and the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP)

The uses of Multi-Agency Coordination Systems (MACS), the combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications which are integrated into a common system are utilized to coordinate and support incident management activities. All response activities are based within the framework of EOPs that describe how citizens, property, and the environment will be protected in a disaster or emergency. In 2007, the Commonwealth employed the ICS principles and concepts for a variety of events and emergencies, including the Jamestown 400th Anniversary (2007), the Virginia Tech shootings (2007), and Tropical Storm Ernesto (2006). Detailed in the COVEOP are the processes and procedures for the integration of incident information and public affairs into a cohesive organization designed to provide consistent, coordinated, timely information during crisis or incident operations.

Incident Command System (ICS)

All emergency incidents as well as preplanned events in Virginia are managed using NIMS and the ICS organizational structures, doctrines, and procedures.

NIMS-Compliant Training and Exercises

All training and exercises conducted in the Commonwealth adhere to the concepts, doctrine and principles expressed in the NRF/NIMS. In Training Year 2007-2008, the State conducted 298 NIMS and Emergency Management-related courses that resulted in 7,857 total students trained. Additionally, in 2007, the following HSEEP-compliant drills and exercises were conducted within the Commonwealth:

<i>Workshops</i>	8
<i>Seminars</i>	2
<i>Drills</i>	2
<i>Tabletop Exercises</i>	11
<i>Functional Exercises</i>	1
<i>Full-scale Exercises</i>	5
Total	29

Virginia conducts an average of 25 exercises annually: two of which are State level exercises, and the remainder are conducted at the regional or multi-jurisdictional level. All of these exercises are designed to assess, practice, and improve the performance of response entities. The exercises conducted at both the State and the regional levels involve the participation of local and Federal partners. Virginia also conducts numerous exercises each year involving the Department of Defense, specifically the United States Northern Command (USNORTHCOM) and their training partner, United States Joint Forces Command (USJFCOM).

Common Language Protocol

A common language protocol for first responders was mandated across the State in 2006.

Commonwealth of Virginia HSEEP, Multi-Year Exercise Plan 2008-2010

The purpose of the Multi-Year Exercise Plan is to coordinate the Commonwealth's training and exercise activities to ensure preparedness goals are met. The 2008-2010 plan provides a roadmap, using an "all-hazards" approach and strategy in developing, designing, and conducting training and exercises to accomplish the priorities described in the State's Homeland Security Strategy.

B. Current Capabilities

NIMS/NIMSCAST:

See Compliance section of this State Preparedness Report.

Three-Year Targets

NIMS/NIMSCAST:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Monitor and assess outreach and implementation of NIMS Requirements.	Continuous	Open
Establish public information system to gather, verify, coordinate, and disseminate information during an incident.	2008	Closed
Complete training—ICS-300	2008	Open
Complete training—ICS-400	2009	Open
Validate that inventory of response assets conforms to FEMA Resource Typing Standards.	2008	Closed
Utilize response asset inventory for Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) requests, exercises, and actual events.	2008	Open
Develop systems and processes to ensure that incident	2008	Open

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
managers at all levels share a common operating picture of an incident.		
Adopted NIMS for all government departments and agencies; as well as promote and encourage NIMS adoption by associations, utilities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and private sector incident management and response organizations.	2008	Open
Monitor formal adoption of NIMS by all tribal and local jurisdictions.	2008	Closed
Establish a planning process to ensure the communication and implementation of NIMS requirements, providing a means for measuring progress and facilitate reporting.	2008	Open
Manage all emergency incidents and pre-planned (recurring/special) events in accordance with ICS organizational structures, doctrine and procedures, as defined in NIMS. ICS implementation must include the consistent application of Incident Action Planning and Common Communications Plans.	2008	Open
Coordinate and support emergency incident and event management through the development and use of integrated multi-agency coordination systems , i.e. develop and maintain connectivity capability between local Incident Command Posts (ICP), local 911 Centers, local Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), the state EOC and regional and/ federal EOCs and /NRF organizational elements.	2008	Open
Institutionalize the Joint Information System (JIS).	2008	Closed
Establish NIMS baseline against the FY 2005 and FY 2006 implementation requirements.	2008	Closed
Revise and update plans and SOPs to incorporate NIMS and NRF components, principles and policies, to include planning, training, response, exercises, equipment, evaluation and corrective actions.	2008	Open
Participate in and promote intrastate and interagency mutual aid agreements, to include agreements with the private sector and non-governmental organizations	2008	Continuous
Leverage training facilities to coordinate and deliver NIMS training requirements in conformance with the NIMS National Standard Curriculum.	2008	Closed

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Complete training—IS-700 NIMS: An Introduction, Complete IS-800 NRF: National Response Framework; ICS-100 and ICS-200.	2008	Open
Participate in an all-hazard exercise program based on NIMS that involves responders from multiple disciplines and multiple jurisdictions.	2008	Open
Develop State plans for the receipt and distribution of resources as outlined in the NRF Catastrophic Incident Annex and Catastrophic Incident Supplement.	2008	Open
Coordinate and provide technical assistance to local entities regarding NIMS institutionalized use of ICS.	2008	Open

D. Initiatives

NIMS/NIMSCAST:

Expand NIMS-based Regional Training, Educational Resources, and Awareness (All Targets)

Description:

This initiative takes maximum advantage of the project momentum begun in mid-2003 to prepare the Commonwealth for adoption of a statewide incident management system and NIMS compliance. The existing interagency collaboration to coordinate and deliver NIMS training requirements in conformance with the NIMS National Standard Curriculum must be expanded to achieve optimum preparedness levels. This initiative includes:

- Doubling the current pool of instructors by recruiting and training qualified personnel.
- Increasing the number of training sessions by 40% the first year and 60% the second year.
- Developing and conducting seven regional workshops to align emergency operations plans with NIMS and the NRF.
- Developing and marketing NIMS and NRF awareness campaigns targeting executive leaders.
- Printing student and instructor materials.
- Contracting for training facilities.
- Purchasing additional audiovisual equipment to support increased course load.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative is statewide-- encompassing the 139 municipalities, all urban areas, each of the seven homeland security regions, the State departments and agencies, key private sector partners, and volunteer groups. It will be coordinated and delivered on a regional basis as another opportunity to implement NIMS and strengthen regional collaboration.

Sustain and Extend the Current Commonwealth of Virginia Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program – Regional Capability Project (HSEEP-RCP) (All Targets)

Description:

The HSEEP-RCP is the mechanism by which the Commonwealth executes its Homeland Security Comprehensive Exercise Program (as expressed in the Multi-Year Exercise Plan). The plan outlines a multi-year strategy with exercise goals and provides a statewide methodology, guidelines and framework for developing each desired exercise in accordance with DHS doctrine. The plan and program follow the annual cycle of:

- Planning/Development
- Training/Preparation
- Exercises
- Improvement Plan

Geographic Scope:

Using a building-block approach, the Commonwealth can ensure the scope, scale, and complexity of each exercise is tailored to each specific region or jurisdiction, while maintaining a consistent statewide delivery method. This approach in developing both training and exercises allows for the appropriate preparation to take place prior to conducting an exercise. Combined with this approach is the principle of “crawl – walk – run,” a strategy where each region moves through the training and exercise process at a pace that ensures adequate preparation prior to each activity.

Program Management for both Initiatives:

The Commonwealth’s training and exercise programs allow for a logical progression of regional and jurisdictional preparedness, conducting training at the right level for the appropriate individuals. Exercises are designed, developed, and conducted to gradually build the capabilities by using the building block approach (of linked training and exercise activities) that increase in size, scope and complexity over time. Within each of the homeland security Regions, VDEM provides a full-time employee who represents the State Coordinator of Emergency Management on a daily basis. VDEM’s Office of Training and Exercises is charged with responsibility for coordinating and conducting the full range of “all-hazards” training and exercise activities. Supported by its Federal partners, VDEM works in an efficient and effective manner to help enable the State to achieve its preparedness goals.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2008

Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program and Statewide Training Program

This investment will support the design, development, delivery, and evaluation of over 25 regional exercises, two statewide exercises, and two cabinet-level exercises each year. A portion of this investment will also be used for NIMS, emergency management, and terrorism training, with an emphasis on the procurement of training materials and resources so participants can attend the classes at no charge.

\$2,540,995

Future Resources Required

Annually the HSEEP, NIMS and emergency management training programs expend \$3,500,000. Expanding this program to include backfill and overtime for locality participants would add an additional \$2,000,000. Between 2007 and 2010 this program is estimated to require \$16,500,000.

National Priority 2: Enhanced Regional Collaboration

A. Accomplishments

Inter-State Collaboration Accomplishments

The Council of Governments (COG) within the National Capitol Region (NCR) fosters inter-State collaboration. In 2007, Virginia accomplished the following goals with respect to collaboration with States outside of the Commonwealth:

- Significant progress is being made in the NCR and Northern Virginia on developing regional plans that identify critical infrastructure, critical facilities, resources, evacuation and sheltering. Regional planning efforts are on-going statewide, and three regional planners have been hired by VDEM to assist localities/regions with planning.
- Statewide Mutual Aid (SMA) forms have been redesigned and standardized for intrastate use.
- The Attorney General's office has made provisions for future deployments to be conducted under SMA when a locality is deployed under EMAC.
- The Commonwealth trained 163 individuals in EMAC and SMA Advance Team procedures and duties (which is the largest group from any State in the country).
- Planning District Commissions are in place throughout the Commonwealth that crosses into other States (MD, WVA, NC, DC).
- The Fairfax Chief Administrative Officer recently agreed to fund a project for Prince George County, Maryland.

Intra-State Collaboration Accomplishments:

Virginia has an extensive program of both inter- and intra-state collaboration and cooperation. The following accomplishments have been made with respect to intra-state collaboration:

- Each of VDEM's seven homeland security regions has a full-time Regional Coordinator, and all agency business is conducted through the regionalization program.
- All of the 139 eligible Virginia localities have adopted the Statewide Mutual Aid for Emergency Management, agreeing to provide assistance when requested, subject to availability of resources, and setting out general requirements and procedures.
- District Planning Commissions are in place throughout the Commonwealth that cross jurisdiction boundaries.
- Region Policy and Action Committees (RPACs), an OCP initiative, work within each region to improve collaboration on State programs and initiatives. The OCP, VDEM, and VSP all focus on RPAC regions for planning and exercises.

- In late 2006 Virginia established the Virginia Higher Education Preparedness Consortium to bring together Virginia Colleges with each other and with State agencies. Virginia has also begun critical infrastructure resiliency studies in partnership with Virginia's research colleges.
- In 1997, the Virginia Geographic Information Network (VGIN) Division was established by legislative mandate to foster the creative utilization of geographic information and oversee the development of a catalogue of GIS data available throughout the Commonwealth. The VGIN Division is located in the Virginia Information Technologies Agency, under the Secretary of Technology. After Hurricane Isabel in 2003, VDEM added a GIS position. The Virginia Readiness, Response, and Recovery Geographic Information System (VR3) was developed as a proof of concept to create a common operational picture. At roughly the same time, WebEOC was selected to serve as an incident management system. Because the information is Web-based, real-time incident viewing and tracking is available to authorized users anywhere in the world. VR3 was not designed to directly integrate with WebEOC, so for this phase of the project, Towson University's Emergency Management Mapping Application (EMMA) has been selected to serve as the GIS Interface to WebEOC. EMMA will provide the common operational picture, while being able to directly integrate with WebEOC.
- As an example of accomplishments on a regional level, Region V has robust regional collaboration between the 16 members of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission (HRPDC) and across the State's borders into NC to the South and into MD on the Eastern shore. The region also participates with Federal and military partners in the DOD Regional Threat Working Group.

B. Current Capabilities

Inter-State Regional Collaboration:

- Virginia participates in activities with FEMA Region III and has formalized inter-state mutual aid agreements with all contingent states and the District of Columbia.
- Virginia is an active participant in the Mid-Atlantic All Hazards Consortium. This regional, inter-state organization provides a multi-state governance structure for initiative development, professional education, and multi-state project management. The current chair of the consortium is the Virginia Homeland Security Advisor.
- Every two years Virginia exercises and trains with neighboring states. Virginia is currently working across all of FEMA Region III to determine evacuation planning needs and develop a regional catastrophic plan.

Intra-State Regional Collaboration:

- Virginia's seven Homeland Security regions vary in the maturity of their governance structure.
- Regions V and VII are both Urban Area Security Initiatives with a more formalized governance structure.
- Region VII governance is evolving from being a subcomponent of the National Capital Region to establishing a regional structure that mirrors an Urban Area Working Group.

- Region V is an Urban Area Security Initiative (Hampton Roads) but not all the localities within the Virginia Homeland Security region are part of the UASI.
- All regions utilize the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness' Regional Preparedness Advisory Committees. These committees are reflective in membership of an Urban Area Working Group but are still finding their base membership.
- Formalized mutual aid agreements exists between all jurisdictions and the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. In addition, MAA exist between specific localities based upon geography, resources, and natural partnerships.
- The localities in each region participate in a HSEEP exercise annually as well as a statewide exercise.
- Details on working groups, exercises and other initiatives are addressed within the other National Priority sections as accomplishments and capabilities.

C. Three-Year Targets

Intra-State Regional Collaboration:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Provide more emergency management planning support to local jurisdictions. Enhance the regional structure and planning districts with full-time planning positions.	2010	Open
Develop regional disaster plans to support preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts across multiple jurisdictions within Virginia and across State lines	2010	Open
Continue to improve inter- and intra-state collaboration (communication and cooperation) at the State level and to encourage the same for the jurisdictions.	2010	Open
Create a GIS template – There needs to be a Commonwealth model for critical technologies. The GIS System, in particular, needs standards for entering data. There needs to be a platform common to the entire Commonwealth.	2010	Open

Inter-State Regional Collaboration:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
The Commonwealth will have regional disaster plans to support preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts across multiple jurisdictions within Virginia and across State lines.	2010	Open
Continue to improve inter- and intra-state collaboration (communication and cooperation) at the State level and to	2010	Open

encourage the same for the jurisdictions.		
Develop a method for reunification of family members (across State lines) following a disaster	2010	Open
The Commonwealth will have regional disaster plans to support preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts across multiple jurisdictions within Virginia and across State lines.	2010	Open

D. Initiatives

Regional planning staff augmentation will be provided to assist regional and local planning efforts including plan development, governance structure management, capability assessment, gap analysis and resource allocation. (Inter-State Targets 1, 2, 3 and Intra-State Targets 1, 2, 4)

Description

This investment will implement two related planning activities, the first of which is the placement of an EM regional planner in 6 of the 7 regions within Virginia. At the request of the regions these planners will be hired by the SAA, located in each region and work across all localities on issues like Mutual Aid Agreements, Continuity of Operations Planning, Evacuation and Sheltering Plans. These individuals will also serve as planners to assist with regional issues including the management of the regional governance structure.

The second activity is to provide staff augmentation for all seven regions, the regional planners, and emergency manager in completing jurisdictional capabilities assessment. The data collected through this process will be entered into the National Preparedness System, providing a planning tool for each jurisdiction, region and the Commonwealth of Virginia. During the three years of grant performance a total of 24 of the capabilities critical to Virginia will be assessed and documented.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative impacts six of the seven regions. A total of eight regional planners will be brought on board across six regions to assist with planning and governance management. All seven regions will also have staff augmentation to assist with the assessment and documentation of target capabilities.

Program Management:

State Administrative Agency:

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is the State Administrative Agency, and will award funds to seven jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction will have been selected by the region to serve as the fiscal agent and project manager for this investment. The SAA will also serve initially as the contract manager completing the statewide contract for vendor conducted capability assessments.

Additionally, the SAA has a full-time procurement office managed by the Director of Purchasing. He has completed the Virginia Contracting Officer program and works closely with both the localities as well as the State's procurement governing body.

Locality Project Management:

Each region will select a fiscal and project agent to manage this investment. Criteria for selection includes ample staff resources and qualifications, a record of appropriate fund usage and timely reporting, as well as positive audit reviews. The SAA will hire the regional planners and a capabilities assessment contractor through a Memorandum of Understanding with all regional jurisdictions outlining responsibilities and timelines. The regional planner will report to the chair of each regional governance structure (see below).

Governance Structure:

The SAA and Office of Commonwealth Preparedness have in place a Regional Preparedness Advisory Committee structure. This governance structure will be used to monitor the progress and effectiveness of this solution for the identified gap. The RPAC meets quarterly, involves multi-disciplinary representation from all public safety entities, NGO and business/industry within the region. This governance structure is well into its second year of operation and, while each region is at a different level of maturity, the regions are beginning to understand how to maintain communication and coordination between meetings. These seven groups are staffed by the SAA and OCP.

Enhance Regional Collaboration and Statewide Planning (Intra-State Targets 1, 2, 3, 6)

Description:

This initiative will promote regional collaboration through a variety of actions including the development of volunteer databases, enhancement of WebEOC capacity, and the creation of a committee focusing on this subject.

- Each of the regional workshops made evident that localities know their partners in preparedness. While some jurisdictions have recommended that State agencies change boundaries to create a single definition of regions, the more common recommendations for actions as part of this initiative were as follows:
 - Provide a mechanism by which localities can tell OCP/VDEM which jurisdictions are already working together.
 - Use this information to better locate the regional meetings, identifying if any localities are excluded, and create partnerships to encourage collaboration, planning, and sharing.
 - Continue to hold meetings in six or seven locations using the regional format established by the VSP or VDEM while at the same time encouraging localities to cross jurisdictional lines and attend the meeting that works best with their natural partners.
 - Place more “central office” staff into regional offices to help regional groups identify common needs and solutions, complete surveys, and develop regional

working group governance (examples include the VDEM regional coordinators, VITA PSAP regional coordinators, VDH regional planners).

- A high-level committee, designed to institutionalize NIMS and NRF implementation, will:
 - Provide recommendations for implementation guidance;
 - Identify opportunities for regional collaboration in planning, training, exercises, and emergency operations;
 - Collect and publish best implementation practices, serve as a regional information-sharing instrument; and
 - Provide compliance assessments to senior leaders.
- The State and local governments will conduct regional exercises annually that include coordination with Federal agencies, regional groups, local government and private industry, volunteer organizations and border States (as appropriate).
- The Commonwealth will continue an annual statewide “All-Hazards” conference for first responders, emergency management personnel, local government officials and other stakeholders to provide a vehicle for information sharing and networking.
- The Commonwealth will assist in seeking funding to provide WebEOC capacity in all localities, public utilities, appropriate private organizations (Red Cross, VOAD) to allow for regional collaboration and to provide a consistent platform among all users. Through VDEM’s regional coordinators, the State will develop a regional disaster coordination plan that “dovetails” with local EOPS and the State EOP.
- The State will develop and maintain a database of private and nonprofit sector volunteer skills and abilities to support response and recovery operations.
- As an example of activities on the regional level:
- Region III will focus on the following actions:
 - Emphasize regional preparedness as a priority with a focus on “staff, not stuff.”
 - Increase staffing levels for planners to improve planning at region, district, and local levels.
 - Engage leadership and citizens in localities in preparedness programs and increase education, training, and planning activities.
- Region V identified the following actions as part of this initiative:
 - Begin to act, work, and think like a region and get the regional leadership to conduct the planning groups’ business in a more professional manner.
 - Follow established procedures, implement discipline and accountability, set priorities, publish decisions, and provide procedural training for new members.
 - Enhance WebEOC operations within the region. As one official indicated, “we have the money to do this, but we need time and more personnel assigned to the project.” The REMTAC should make this a priority project.
 - The HRPDC needs to enhance the collaborative process through enhanced organization – define stakeholders, develop overarching goals and objectives, refine the region’s strategy, define roles and functions, and provide coordination for the many groups conducting the region’s business.
 - Conduct more regional exercises to test first responders and examine evacuation, mitigation and recovery issues. Exercises should be based on terrorism scenarios as well as natural disasters (such as hurricanes).
 - Review and update all MOAs/MOUs region wide.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative will have a statewide influence, encompassing each of the 139 municipalities, all urban areas, each of the seven homeland security regions, several dozen State agencies, key private sector partners, and volunteer groups.

Program Management:

Key stakeholders representing the emergency services disciplines, local governments, and State agencies will play a pivotal role in implementing this initiative. In particular, the proposed committee, in consonance with the Governor's Executive Order Number 102 (and working closely with the State Administrative Agency, the Commonwealth Preparedness Working Group, the Secure Commonwealth Panel, and the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness) will provide oversight for these regional collaboration activities.

The Quad-State Interoperability Initiative (QSII) (Inter-State Targets 1, 2, 3)

Description:

This initiative addresses the need for a continuous flow of critical information among jurisdictions, emergency responders, command posts, agencies, and government officials for the Quad-State region of West Virginia, Virginia, Maryland and Pennsylvania. Due to its proximity to the Nation's capital it is likely an incident will occur in the Quad-State region. Likewise, if something occurred in the Nation's capital, the ripple effect will highly impact the Quad-States. These States are leading the nation in interstate collaboration, and this initiative is intended to serve as a national model. The collaboration and the associated "seed money" from the Homeland Security Grant Program will help establish the business model for demonstrating bordering State collaboration—it will also lay the larger integration groundwork for future collaboration and the funding that will support it.

This multi-state and multi-jurisdiction initiative will support the development of new and improvement of existing continuity of operations plans for public safety communications, its critical components, networks, support systems, personnel, and an appropriate level of redundant communications systems on an interstate regional basis. Through this initiative the States will:

- Establish procedures and protocols to improve interconnectivity;
- Formalize standards and agreements through officially establishing and staffing a governance structure;
- Further develop relationships to create interoperability policies between States;
- Enhance the ability to manage critical resources thus enhancing Command and Control; and
- Connect Virginia's statewide microwave backbone to the West Virginia backbone allowing State agencies from both States to communicate via the existing communication systems.

In addition to the above actions that must be taken at the State level, the following actions must be taken at a broader level to achieve this initiative:

- The current process for governance will need to be leveraged and expanded to create an official Quad-State Interoperability governance structure to include an Executive Steering

Committee and Initiative Advisory Committee (IAC) with membership from each State. This Committee will need to be attained/staffed by subject matter experts from each States interoperability program;

- Individual State plans will need to be reviewed for points of intersection and leveraged to create a regional compatibility plan. The task should be contracted and managed by the committees to expedite its completion;
- A baseline survey must be conducted to determine regional gaps in resources processes and tools. The task should also be contracted and managed by the committees in order to expedite its completion;

At this point, each State has:

- Developed and is maturing statewide radio architectures;
- Established or is establishing intra-state governance structures (i.e. the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinators' Office, Maryland's Interoperability Governance Working Group and Statewide Interoperability Executive Steering Committee);
- Been granted membership on the board of directors and partakes in the Mid-Atlantic All Hazards Consortium.

Geographic Scope:

The geographical context of this initiative includes the States of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, with a specific focus on adjoining borders that frequently work together for emergencies, law enforcement investigations, evacuations, or mutual aid. These States also make up a large part of FEMA Region III.

Program Management:

Through this initiative the intricacies of multi-jurisdictional and multi-disciplinary interoperability will be addressed through regional collaboration. By sharing lessons learned, leveraging developments in architectures, critical components, networks, and support systems, and creating a true regional interoperability capability the State's overall homeland security program is strengthened. This initiative realizes the true nature of expanding regional collaboration and once established can be replicable for other capabilities and for other regions.

This initiative has the beginnings of a governance process which will need to be expanded and formalized. The concept for this includes, but is not limited to, an Executive Steering Committee which will consist of State policy makers and an Initiative Advisory Committee (IAC) consisting of technical experts from each State. The governance structure will serve as a coordinating body with ownership of the initiative belonging to the individual States.

Expand Family Assistance and Reunification Center Model (Intra-State Targets 1, 2, 3)

Description:

Using UASI grant funds given to Arlington County, this initiative focuses on developing a plan to establish a Family Assistance Center following disasters. Although Arlington County is the UASI grant manager, the developed plan applies to Virginia and Maryland counties and cities, as well as the District of Columbia. The Family Assistance Center will serve the following functions:

- Relatives of missing victims of a terrorist act or large-scale natural disaster can register and provide information to the medical examiner's office about missing relatives.
- Relatives can receive official notification that their missing family member(s) have been positively identified and are deceased, that the missing have been found alive, or that a case remains open.
- Disaster victims and relatives of the missing can register for Federal, State, or local disaster assistance, including crisis or mental health counseling.
- Registered applicants can receive status updates on the progress of their applications for various forms of disaster assistance.

Once regional jurisdictions receive the initial training in the Family Assistance and Reunification Model, the operational use of the model will be incorporated within local, regional, and statewide plans. After the plans have been revised, the establishment of a Family Assistance and Reunification Center will be exercised. Starting in late 2008, establishment a Family Assistance Center will be included in all exercises involving terrorist events and large-scale natural disasters.

Geographic Scope:

Any region within the Commonwealth must have the capacity to stand-up a Family Assistance Center. It is essential that a facility for providing services to disaster victims and their families be as near as possible to the actual site of the disaster.

Program Management:

The regional alignment of resources, the identification and authority to command, and the expeditious delivery of services and information can best be provided only when staff and volunteers are well trained in the design, operation and execution of a Family Assistance Center and Reunification Model. The Virginia Department of Social Services, the Office of the Medical Examiner, and VDEM have unique experience with the Family Assistance Center model given their work with the military's implementation of a Family Assistance Center following the 9/11 attack on the Pentagon. Furthermore, these offices have experience working in similar facilities — Disaster Recovery Centers — that are established by FEMA following federal disaster declarations for natural disasters within the Commonwealth.

A partnership with elected officials and local government staff in the regional jurisdictions will be established. All State, local, federal, and non-profit agencies (social services, health, mental health, law enforcement, Red Cross, Salvation Army, FEMA, IRS, etc.) having a role in a Family Assistance Center must integrate effectively for the program to work successfully.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

Interoperability Capability Assessment Baseline: This multi-state effort will identify opportunities for partnering among the Mid-Atlantic States, with the overall goal of avoiding duplicative costs, creating cooperative operations and improving interoperability across the

region during disasters.

\$250,000

Multi-state Mass Care and Evacuation Planning: Virginia will join with Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia to establish a coordinated catastrophic disaster plan. The plan will build upon existing State and National Capital Region plans to develop a regional approach to evacuation and mass care.

\$84,500

Outreach – Ready Virginia – The Ready Virginia campaign will unite local, State and national preparedness efforts. Ready Virginia will use a combination of free and paid advertising, public relations, Internet and grassroots efforts to reach a diverse audience.

\$276,299

Statewide Shelter Implementation (Local Mega Shelter Enhancements) – This investment supports State and local shelter enhancement projects. It will enhance shelter use and maintenance during an evacuation and make state shelters more accessible to a wide range of potential evacuation populations.

\$2,400,000

Future Resources Required

Some of the initiatives in this section are addressed in other National Priority areas. In those cases the future resources are also detailed in those respective sections.

To improve regional collaboration within the Commonwealth of Virginia, approximately \$10,000,000 could be spent between 2007 and 2010 on regional planners, staff augmentation for a complete, statewide capabilities assessment as well as software upgrades to run reports for planning analysis.

The cost of Family Assistance Centers is included in the National Priority 8: Planning.

National Priority 3: Implement the NIPP

A. Accomplishments

Analysis of DHS Critical Infrastructure (CI) Sites

The Office of Commonwealth Preparedness (OCP) works closely with other agencies such as the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT), Virginia Fusion Center (VFC), and others to manage Virginia's critical infrastructure program. Thus far, Virginia has completed an analysis of sites identified by DHS as critical infrastructure and has developed its own list of critical infrastructure that is currently being refined by the Resiliency Study (discussed below).

Additionally OCP, in conjunction with VDOT, VFC, and others, has created Vulnerability Assessment Teams (VATs) to assess critical infrastructure sites in the Commonwealth.

Working with the Private Sector

There are currently over 20,000 Critical Infrastructure/Key Resource (CI/KR) sites in Virginia, approximately 85 percent of which are owned and operated by the private sector. As such, collaboration with the private sector has been a primary focus for Virginia when striving to implement the NIPP throughout the Commonwealth.

Through the Virginia Fusion Center, the Virginia EOC, and critical infrastructure outreach efforts, Virginia is partnering with utility companies to deter threats to vital infrastructure and enhance coordination of prevention and preparedness initiatives between local and State governments and the utility industry.

Additionally, coordinated efforts with the private sector will be expanded through the implementation of the Virginia Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency Strategic Plan and implementation of the accompanying Sector Specific Plans (NIPP).

Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS)

Constellation/Automated Critical Asset Management System is a web-based tool managed by DHS to collect information on critical assets, compile data, assist with vulnerability assessments, and generate a variety of reports. The Virginia OCP is deploying ACAMS to promote regional collaboration. It will be locally managed (with support provided by DHS and the Virginia Fusion Center) and will become Virginia's fundamental recording tool on critical infrastructure as the Commonwealth switches over from IMAP.

Protected Critical Infrastructure Information (PCII) Program

Virginia is fully accredited from the DHS PCII Program Office.

Port Security

The AMS port security plans have been developed under the aegis of the appropriate U. S. Coast Guard Captain of the Port and provide integrated, layered defense for Virginia's ports. These plans coordinate Coast Guard and Navy as well as private, local and State security and law enforcement, assets in an integrated and cooperative protection program. Additionally, the Governor's office is represented on both the Baltimore and Hampton Roads Maritime Commissions, helping ensure these plans are carefully coordinated.

Airport Security

Virginia has invested in the Department of Aviation, providing training funds, establishing standards and inspections, creating a database of pilots and planes, and doing awareness work with airport operators and owners through their respective associations.

DOAV is providing oversight of the General Aviation Security Program and coordinating with airport sponsors to improve compliance with current aviation security practices. DOAV established the Virginia Airports Security Advisory Committee (VASAC) to develop improved security measures and advise the Commonwealth on General Aviation security-related matters.

Training

Virginia has completed 100% of its established milestones for CI training. The Commonwealth requires Terrorism Awareness training of all State employees and has been working to supply private industry with soft target awareness training. The Commonwealth has also developed and distributed instruction manuals and templates describing how to conduct and prepare general aviation Airport Security Audits/Plans.

Equipment

In support of the Jamestown 400th Celebration, cameras, jersey barriers, sensors, communications equipment etc. were purchased. Virginia has also recently purchased security equipment for underwater security in Hampton Roads.

Virginia is also the focus of a pilot project with the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) called the Southeast Transportation Corridor Pilot (SETCP). For this project, radiological detection equipment was installed at the Stephens City Weigh Station on I-81.

B. Current Capabilities

Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:

- State CIP plans are in place.
- Appropriate risk methodology has been developed, and information has been collected about assets, systems, networks, and functions relevant to this effort.
- Sector-specific agencies have identified assets of potential regional importance.
- A mechanism for coordinating CIP efforts is in place.
- Sector security goals support the goal of the NIPP.
- Risk assessment training program is developed and implemented.
- Data has been collected on assets, systems, networks, and functions and address dependencies and interdependencies that affect functionality and performance.
- Consequence or “top-screen” analysis has been performed.
- Potential threats to assets, systems, networks, and functions have been identified.
- Risk analysis results were disseminated to the proper authorities.

C. Three-Year Targets

Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Implement the Commonwealth's Critical Infrastructure Protection and Resiliency Strategic Plan, focusing on State, regional, and local efforts for infrastructure protection.	2010	Open
Conduct regional, sector analysis of CI/KR to establish risk, interdependencies and a baseline for resiliency.	2010	Open
Determine which agencies and employees (State and local) need PCII training prior to DHS's PAS system becoming operable. Conduct this training using the best format available.	2010	Open
Develop a PCII website containing information on the Virginia CII Code, SOP, CII Act, SSI Federal Regulations, Federal Register, and PCII Work Product Guide.	2010	Open
Implement a statewide technological security structure through the Commonwealth IT Security Program.	2010	Open
Establish collaborative plans, equipment, training, and protection standards for security of transportation systems to include surface, aviation, and seaports.	2010	Open
Establish plans, procedures, training, and exercises necessary to protect facilities providing water, power, and communications.	2010	Open

D. Initiatives

Critical Infrastructure Protection Program:

Implement the National Infrastructure Protection Plan in the Commonwealth of Virginia through development of sector specific working groups and an analysis of the critical infrastructures/key resources within each region. (Targets 1, 2, 3, 6, 7)

Description:

This Initiative will support the implementation of the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) and strives to achieve the goals and objectives set forth in the Secure Commonwealth Initiative Strategic Plan. The following areas in particular are critical to implementation of the NIPP:

Plan Development

- The homeland security regions will develop regional plans to support preparedness and response initiatives. Each region's plan should include profiles of infrastructure, critical facilities, and resources to support operations.
- An aggressive plan will be developed to conduct standardized risk and vulnerability assessments for critical infrastructure training to local law enforcement and CI/KR sector representatives.

Key Personnel and Partnerships

- The employment of a statewide Critical Infrastructure Protection Coordinator and seven Regional Infrastructure Security Coordinators will support the management of statewide and regional implementation of the program.
- Existing working groups, community organizations, and government personnel will help harden all CI/KR facilities within the Commonwealth.
- State and local governments will partner with the private sector and utilities to enhance initiatives to deter threats to vital infrastructure.
- State and local governments will implement a public awareness program promoting citizen and private sector protection of critical transportation infrastructure.

Resiliency Study

- While Virginia has completed a macro-level examination of statewide critical infrastructure, Hampton Roads is the first region to conduct an in-depth resiliency study to identify preparedness gaps and interdependencies. This project will be complete in 2008. Virginia plans to conduct similar studies in other regions to get an overarching picture for the entire Commonwealth, and the NCR is planning a similar project using funds from the 2007 NCR UASI grant.

Geographic Scope:

This Initiative will cover the implementation of the NIPP in all seven homeland security regions and will encompass all eighteen sectors of Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources as identified by DHS. The risk and vulnerability assessment training portion of the Initiative will be focused on local entities. It will impact each of the Commonwealth's jurisdictions and the entire Commonwealth's population of over 7 million citizens.

Program Management:

The Office of Commonwealth Preparedness provides program management with the advice and coordination from the SCP and CPWG Sub-Panel as well as other agencies such as VDOT and VFC. Private industry partners, such as Dominion Power and Verizon, have also played a key role in the establishment of the NIPP. OCP serves as the coordinating body for all of these groups.

Apply technology and security standards to the implementation of the NIPP in the Commonwealth of Virginia (Targets 4, 5, 6, 7)

Databases

The Commonwealth will:

- Develop a PCII-compliant website for management of all CI/KR data.
- Continue to use the ACAMS to document critical infrastructure and key assets. Stakeholders coordinate use of this data to develop a written plan to safeguard these assets and infrastructure, such as the enforcement of maritime exclusion zones.
- Continue to update the assets list through the DHS “Data Call,” an annual updating process for the NADB. This system maintains a listing of every potential critical asset (20,000) in the Commonwealth.
- Continue to update the BZPP list for Virginia assets.
- Continue to train users who access ACAMS and other secure programs.

Training and Exercises

The Commonwealth will:

- Develop and deliver risk and vulnerability assessment training to local law enforcement and emergency management agencies across the State. Through this training, 5-person Risk and Vulnerability Assessment Teams will be formed within each of the Commonwealth's 139 localities. These teams will perform comprehensive all-hazards risk and vulnerability assessments at designated CI/KR sites.
- Coordinate with the HSEEP training and exercise program the use of CI/KR data, databases, and training to apply NIPP to routine prevention and recovery planning.

Geographic Scope:

This Initiative will cover the implementation of the NIPP in all seven homeland security regions and will encompass all seventeen sectors of Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources as identified by the Department of Homeland Security. The risk and vulnerability assessment training portion of the Initiative will be focused on local entities.

Program Management:

The Office of Commonwealth Preparedness provides program management with the advice and coordination from the SCP and CPWG Sub-Panel as well as other agencies such as VDOT and VFC. Private industry partners, such as Dominion Power and Verizon, have also played a key role in the establishment of the NIPP. OCP serves as the coordinating body for all of these groups.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

The NIPP is being implemented throughout the Commonwealth, but Homeland Security grant funds are not being used. Currently State funds and Federal Highway Administration funds have been used for NIPP implementation. The Buffer Zone Protection Program is managed by VDOT.

Critical Infrastructure/Key Resources Protection Program – This 2007 investment supports the First Responder Authentication Credential smart cards now issued to employees and contractors in Northern Virginia and the Hampton Roads area. It also provides training on the Automated Critical Asset Management System for more than 300 local law enforcement officers.
\$1,227,750

Future Resources Required

To complete implementation of the NIPP, resources are needed as follows:

Seven regional CI coordinators (7 positions for three years (includes development of 18 CI/KR Sector Specific Plans)	\$ 1,600,000
ACAMS training (5 persons in 139 localities)	\$ 1,000,000
Resiliency studies of remaining six regions (1 region was \$1.7m)	\$ 9,000,000
Equipment for hardening	\$ 3,000,000
Website security, support, standards	\$ 500,000
Total resources required 2007-2010	\$14,500,000

National Priority 4: Strengthen Information Sharing and Collaboration

A. Accomplishments

Establishment of Virginia Fusion Center (VFC)

- The Virginia Fusion Center (which is successfully co-located with the State EOC) has been operating 24-hours a day, 7 days a week, for over 18 months. It is fully integrated and sustained by the Virginia State Police and VDEM.
- All tiers of the Virginia government and the first responder community are actively involved in the VFC and the information sharing process.
- Operating policies and procedures for the VFC clearly define how information flows to, from, and within the center, and written intelligence requirements complement established Federal Priority Intelligence and Information Requirements.
- The VFC has received certification for the Secure Conference Room as Open Storage of Secret information through DHS.

Fusion Center Personnel

- The VFC currently has 15 analysts (there are three vacancies), all with specific specialties.
- The FBI, on behalf of the Justice Department, has placed an analyst in the VFC which greatly enhances the exchange of mission-critical information. The National Guard, reporting for the Defense Department, has 2 full-time representatives in the VFC, giving the State a direct link to the military. This person is trained in accordance with the fusion process requirements.
- The VFC houses a DHS representative full-time to facilitate coordination with the Federal government.
- The VFC has workspace available for VERT agencies in the event of an incident, and Dominion Power's Security Division now has an analyst assigned as a liaison for the Fusion Center part-time.
- Virginia has participated in analyst exchanges with other State intelligence centers to expand understanding of varying viewpoints, develop partnerships, and establish lines of communication.
- The VFC conducts law enforcement background checks for all individuals who are points of contact for the center or are employed within the center.
- A Virginia Fusion Center Advisory Board and working group has been established to represent the governance structure and includes executive members from DHS, FBI, State agencies, private industry, and law enforcement.
- Subject matter experts have been identified from critical State agencies.
- Performance measures for personnel have been designed to coincide with the center's mission, goals, and objectives.
- The Richmond and Norfolk FBI Field Intelligence Groups (FIGs) have full time analysts rotating through the VFC, and information is shared with the JTTFs and FIGs on a regular basis.

Fusion Center Operations

- All seventeen of Virginia's Emergency Response Team agencies are assigned a POC for the Fusion Center to receive information.
- The Department of Aviation and the VFC have been meeting on a regular basis (in VASAC meetings) to ensure pertinent aviation-related security issues are communicated to each other.
- The Center maintains regular contact with function-specific analysts from other agencies and the private sector (health and medical, agricultural, transportation, fire services, environmental, military, industry and infrastructure, etc.) and brings them into the fusion process when needed.
- The State coordinates information/intelligence-sharing with the utility industry and ensures that law enforcement and emergency management plans address critical utility infrastructure.
- The Virginia Secure Operations Room, the DHS-certified facility for secret information, is also co-located within the VFC and handles national security information for both the EOC and Fusion Center operations. Additionally, the Commonwealth has initiated several systems designed to provide enhanced, augmented, and redundant modes of communication in the event of a disaster, all with the design of a statewide program of interoperability.
- By the end of 2006, there were nine regional information sharing networks linking a total of 91 agencies/localities across the State, mostly in rural areas.
- The Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council (ATAC) in the Western District of the Commonwealth greatly enhances collaboration among local, State, and federal law enforcement agencies in sharing criminal information and intelligence.
- Over 600 contacts have been established with local law enforcement, other State fusion centers, State agencies in Virginia with a homeland security mission, and private sector partners such as Dominion Power. Monthly and quarterly meetings are held with these partners, and outreach programs are conducted to promote awareness of fusion center activities.
- The VFC has developed MOUs with all agencies participating in the fusion process and has initiated a work group to draft legislation dealing with any inappropriate disclosure of information.
- The fusion center has access to a variety of databases from State and Federal agencies, including the DMV, RISS, LEO, and HSIN. N-Dex and R-Dex will be accessed when available.
- There is an established security policy for the VFC, and security officers have been designated to ensure all protocols are followed and all personnel undergo yearly security training.
- Information is archived, and intelligence information is retained, per 28CFR regulations.

Fusion Center Reports

- The VFC works well with the EOC to coordinate activities and support them during an incident or event.
- The VFC has the capacity to identify patterns, trends, and pre-incident indicators. It can collect key information from existing sources, and information can be reported to the center using the tips line or the internet.

- The VFC prepares an annual Intelligence Assessment that draws from national intelligence assessments and estimates, Department of Homeland Security and Federal Bureau of Investigation Advisories and Alerts, and other sources of intelligence and information including “Open Source” reporting and local and State information. The Intelligence Assessment uses information that is Sensitive but Unclassified in nature. This assessment is provided to all Law Enforcement Agencies within the Commonwealth. The Virginia Fusion Center Advisory Board also produces an annual report to the Governor which includes this threat assessment.
- The VFC has established a hotline and email reporting system for terrorism tips and transmits pertinent information to local jurisdictions and any agency that has a right and need to know the information.

Regional Crime Information Sharing Networks

- By the end of 2007, there were eleven regional crime information sharing networks operating in the Commonwealth linking more than 100 agencies/localities across the State; however, several of these networks have been in operation for nearly two decades and are not compliant with current DHS standards.
- The Law Enforcement Information Exchange (LInX) is currently operational in Northern Virginia, Hampton Roads, and the Richmond metropolitan area. LInX provides participating law enforcement agencies with secure access to regional crime and incident data and the tools needed to process it, enabling investigators to search across jurisdictional boundaries to help solve crimes and resolve suspicious events.
- The Commonwealth recently received a \$6.8 million DHS grant to expand information sharing network coverage to an additional 80 agencies.

B. Current Capabilities

The following capabilities are currently in place with respect to intelligence information sharing and dissemination as well as counter-terror investigations and law enforcement.

Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:

- The VFC has the capacity to identify patterns, trends, and pre-incident indicators. It can collect key information from existing sources, and information can be reported to the center using the tips line or the internet.
- Relevant Federal, State, regional, and local authorities have been identified as necessary participants in the information sharing process and have access to the necessary information sharing systems.
- Regulatory, statutory, and/or privacy policies are in place.
- Mechanisms within the information sharing network to provide feedback and/or follow-up information as needed are in place.
- Local agencies have an established procedure/protocol for providing intelligence products or relevant information to street-level law enforcement personnel.
- The Virginia Fusion Center ensures the participation of private sector and Federal partners.
- Appropriate personnel are trained in processing and disseminating information and intelligence.

- Training and exercise programs include interaction with the private sector operators of critical infrastructure.
- Intelligence is shared systematically between Federal, State, regional and local entities in a timely manner.
- Relevant information and/or intelligence products are disseminated to street-level law enforcement personnel.

Counter-Terror Investigations and Law Enforcement Capability:

- Infrastructure has been established for the State and local governments to exchange terrorism and crime information.
- Procedures are in place for conducting appropriate background investigations on personnel applying for sensitive positions in government, law enforcement, and the private sector.
- Processes and procedures are in place for law enforcement at all levels to identify and respond to suspicious activities and persons through the appropriate channels.
- Processes and procedures for law enforcement at all levels to identify individuals planning and coordinating terrorist-related activities are in place.
- Processes and procedures for law enforcement at all levels to apprehend and interdict terrorist suspects are in place.
- Processes and procedures for law enforcement at all levels to gather, catalogue, and preserve evidence for prosecutorial purposes and attribution are in place.
- Investigative policies, procedures, and processes are reviewed on a periodic basis.
- Notification processes and procedures to share information to/from Federal, State, local, and tribal officials regarding an on-going investigation are in place.
- Investigative personnel are familiar with the Terrorist Incident Annex to the NRF.
- Plans and protocols for sharing incident-specific information from Federal partners with State, local, and tribal authorities, Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs), and other pertinent entities are in place.
- State, local, and tribal law enforcement either possess or have access to special operations teams (e.g., SWAT teams).
- Information flow plans/process for onsite personnel and detection capabilities are developed for rapidly relaying investigative information.

C. Three-Year Targets

Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Establish an Eastern District Anti-Terrorism Advisory Councils.	2010	Open
Acquire additional grant funding for the VFC and the Regional Crime Information Sharing Networks (RCISN).	2010	Open
Enhancement of current communication systems to allow communication across State borders.	2010	Open

Update all current regional information sharing systems to meet Global JXDM requirements, the standard for public safety data sharing in the U. S.	2010	Open
Virginia State government should take a leadership role and support the establishment of additional regional information sharing networks throughout the State.	2010	Open

Counter-Terror Investigations and Law Enforcement Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Build the capacity to prevent terrorism acts by improving the ability of law enforcement and other security agencies to identify, investigate and apprehend suspected terrorists before they can strike.	2010	Open
Exchange and maintain counter-terrorism intelligence and criminal records information systems, through improved collection, analysis, and exchange methodologies among law enforcement agencies and the public sector at all levels of government.	2010	Open
Promote collaboration and equitable partnerships among all levels of government and private industry in the development of homeland security strategies, policies, and funding initiatives.	2010	Open
Pursue State and national legislative changes to reduce our communities' vulnerabilities and improve our ability to prevent a terrorist attack.	2010	Open
Promote terrorism awareness and prevention through private sector and citizen involvement.	2010	Open

D. Initiatives

Intelligence and Information Sharing and Dissemination Capability:

Establish Virginia Intelligence Management System (VIMS) (Targets 3, 4, 5)

Description:

The VIMS will complete Virginia's efforts to establish an effective information sharing system, and it is envisioned that this system will help streamline the collection, analysis, and distribution of timely intelligence. It is expected that intelligence and information products will allow State agencies and local governments to address all-hazard incidents in a more efficient and effective manner.

Part of this Initiative is to establish the VEOC/Fusion Center Statewide Geospatial Data Sharing Network. This Network will allow for enhanced situational awareness through the ability to access and analyze federal and State geospatial data and products. The geospatial information can be shared with State agencies and local governments during disasters, emergencies, and routine operations.

The Commonwealth and private sector are also working to develop policies governing information and intelligence sharing. The VISE can be used to bring the key government and private sector Preparedness and security officials together to communicate. The SCP B&I Sub-Panel have toured Fusion Center and encouraged business to sign up for VCISSP 150.

In addition to the above, Virginia is also focusing on the following activities as part of this initiative:

- Creation of a law enforcement terrorism information and intelligence clearinghouse.
- Purchase of personal protective equipment.
- Establishment of computer evidence recovery units.
- Enhancement of tactical water operations.
- Acquisition of explosive detection canines.
- Improvement of aviation units' night operations.
- Establishment of regional emergency response teams/workgroups.
- Establishment of a law enforcement terrorism training office.
- Creation of a law enforcement equipment and readiness fund.
- Establishment of a regional emergency response teams exercise fund.
- Continued development of written intelligence requirements for first responders, agencies, and governments to improve intelligence and information sharing.
- Development of a staffing plan to include full time analysts at the District level of the VFC system.
- Acquisition of additional grant funding for training of analysts in fusion centers.
- Development of requirements to convert an existing regional information sharing network to Global JXDM, commonly referred to as XML. In addition, any new networks being developed should be XML compliant

Geographic Scope:

The VIMS and the Network will be housed at the Virginia State Police Headquarters with the Virginia Emergency Operations Center and the Virginia Fusion Center. Its impact, however, will be statewide and throughout all regions.

Program Management:

The majority of the effort involved in this Initiative is directed towards hardware, software, and licenses required for the VFC to use federal data and processing capabilities. The Commonwealth has been in contact with national intelligence agencies who wish to support the development of the VFC through this Initiative.

Counter-Terror Investigations and Law Enforcement Capability:

Build the capacity to prevent terrorist acts by improving the ability of law enforcement and other security agencies to identify, investigate, and apprehend suspected terrorists before they can strike. (Target 1)

Description:

The following are priority actions associated with this initiative:

- ❑ Maintain a strategic planning process, reviewed annually, chartered to develop a capabilities-based, long-range, homeland security strategy.
- ❑ Establish regional groups composed of local, State, and federal law enforcement agencies as well as representatives from the private sector to facilitate intelligence and information sharing as well as provide relevant anti-terrorism training to its members.
- ❑ Continue to implement and enhance regional, statewide, and interstate criminal information sharing capabilities that meet national standards.
- ❑ Enhance the capability of the Virginia Fusion Center to manage and integrate homeland security-related information and intelligence across all jurisdictions, disciplines, and the private sector.
- ❑ Establish statewide counterterrorism and intelligence training requirements for law enforcement and other homeland security-related personnel.
- ❑ Establish an integrated, multi-agency counterterrorism investigative capability throughout the state that addresses all:
 - Known or suspected terrorist organizations, cells, and actors,
 - Terror-related threats,
 - Suspicious activities,
 - Groups and networks providing direct material support to terrorists, and
 - Criminal enterprises indirectly supporting or enabling terrorists.
- ❑ Acquire and maintain threat detection, surveillance, and intervention equipment for key interdiction and inspection points to support national threat analysis and ensure rapid detection, investigation, and prevention of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive incidents.

Geographic Scope:

The Virginia State Police and Fusion Center encompass Virginia in its entirety. This initiative would benefit all state agencies as well as 139 localities and seven regions.

Program Management:

The Virginia State Police has a full administrative staff able to function as project managers. In addition, the VSP work closely with the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS has a proven track record of managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds including project and fiscal management. DCJS provides support to VSP as needed.

Enhance and maintain counter-terrorism intelligence and criminal records information systems, through improved collection, analysis, and exchange methodologies among law enforcement agencies and the public safety sector at all levels of government. (Target 2)

Description:

The following are priority actions associated with this initiative:

- ❑ Continue development of regional crime information sharing networks to provide communications and information sharing among all stakeholders.
- ❑ Establish a statewide data sharing capability connecting regional crime information sharing networks with State law enforcement agencies, the Virginia Fusion Center, and appropriate federal agencies.
- ❑ Adopt the Justice Global XML data sharing standards for all new criminal justice information systems.
- ❑ Leverage existing federally funded information systems to communicate and collaborate at all levels.
- ❑ Enhance and maintain the capabilities of intelligence analysts and investigators by providing the most effective and efficient analytical and investigative training, techniques, equipment, and tools.

Geographic Scope:

The Virginia State Police and Fusion Center encompass Virginia in its entirety. This initiative would benefit all state agencies as well as 139 localities and seven regions.

Program Management:

The Virginia State Police has a full administrative staff able to function as project managers. In addition, the VSP work closely with the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS has a proven track record of managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds including project and fiscal management. DCJS provides support to VSP as needed.

Promote collaboration and equitable partnerships among all levels of government and private industry in the development of homeland security strategies, policies, and funding initiatives. (Target 3)

Description:

The following are priority actions associated with this initiative:

- ❑ Incorporate and integrate representatives of critical infrastructure strategic facilities into Virginia Fusion Center operations.
- ❑ Facilitate mutual technical assistance and training sessions among law enforcement agencies and the private security industry.

- ❑ Enlist the homeland security community, including fire services, health services, agriculture, animal health, and other critical infrastructure stakeholders, as collectors and customers of intelligence.

Geographic Scope:

The Virginia State Police and Fusion Center encompass Virginia in its entirety. This initiative would benefit all state agencies as well as 139 localities and seven regions.

Program Management:

The Virginia State Police has a full administrative staff able to function as project managers. In addition, the VSP work closely with the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS has a proven track record of managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds including project and fiscal management. DCJS provides support to VSP as needed.

Pursue local, State and national legislative changes to reduce our communities' vulnerabilities and improve our ability to prevent a terrorist attack. (Target 4)

Description:

The following are priority actions associated with this initiative:

- ❑ Seek legislation and funding to enhance the security of State driver's licenses that comply with the requirements of U.S. Department of Homeland Security.
- ❑ Seek legislation and funding to meet the objectives of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Cyber Identity/Credentialing (formerly Smartcard) program.

Geographic Scope:

The Virginia State Police and Fusion Center encompass Virginia in its entirety. This initiative would benefit all state agencies as well as 139 localities and seven regions.

Program Management:

The Virginia State Police has a full administrative staff able to function as project managers. In addition, the VSP work closely with the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS has a proven track record of managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds including project and fiscal management. DCJS provides support to VSP as needed.

Promote terrorism awareness and prevention through private sector and citizen involvement. (Target 5)

Description:

The following are priority actions associated with this initiative:

- ❑ Identify priority messages for targeted public and private industry awareness campaigns focusing on reporting of suspicious activities related to terrorism.
- ❑ Establish regional and local strategies to increase terror-related public awareness through media outlets and citizen groups.

- ❑ Strive to include Virginia's citizens in homeland security activities as well as to increase their crime and terrorism awareness through public education and outreach, training, and volunteer service opportunities.
- ❑ Seek opportunities for informed volunteerism and service opportunities through Citizen Corps' component programs: Community Emergency Response Teams, Volunteers in Police Service, Neighborhood Watch, and other related programs that support the goal of making Virginia and America safer.
- ❑ Establish secure and unclassified communications systems and processes to support interactive and real-time intelligence/information exchange among private sector entities, local law enforcement agencies, and State homeland security operations.

Geographic Scope:

The Virginia State Police and Fusion Center encompass Virginia in its entirety. This initiative would benefit all state agencies as well as 139 localities and seven regions.

Program Management:

The Virginia State Police has a full administrative staff able to function as project managers. In addition, the VSP work closely with the Dept. of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS). DCJS has a proven track record of managing the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program funds including project and fiscal management. DCJS provides support to VSP as needed.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

In 2006 and 2007, the Fusion Center received no funding from the SHSGP. The Fusion Center training and equipment is funded from a DOJ/Byrne grant with a 25% match paid by VSP. Personnel are paid by the State and its partners in the Fusion Center.

The expansion and sustainment of regional crime information sharing networks is funded through a combination of local, State, and federal programs. The largest share of support is provided by the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Program

\$6,667,490

Future Resources Required

To fully complete the initiatives described above by 2010, the Virginia State Police and Fusion Center would need approximately \$20,000,000. This includes software, hardware, staff augmentation for technical support and end user training, analyst expansion and planning/organizational costs.

National Priority 5: Strengthen Communications Capabilities

A. Accomplishments

Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinators Office

The Commonwealth has established an Interoperability Coordinator's Office (CICO) responsible for statewide planning, coordination, and implementation of interoperable communications consistent with the guidelines established by the Federal government. For more information on this office, please see the Overview.

Local Capability Assessment for Readiness

The Code of Virginia states, "all political subdivisions shall provide an annually updated emergency management assessment to the State Coordinator of Emergency Management on or before July 1 of each year." Virginia adopted Local Capability Assessment for Readiness (LCAR) as an interactive self-assessment tool, and workshops were conducted in FY 2003 to introduce localities to the program. Using the LCAR instrument as developed by FEMA and its professional partners, 98% of localities have complied with this requirement. Future assessments may be performed using other nationally recognized standards for both State and local governments.

Statewide Baseline Survey

In 2007, the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness CICO coordinated the Commonwealth Communications Baseline Survey to collect information regarding the current status of local, regional and statewide interoperable communications. This survey collected information over a 3-month period from across the Commonwealth to determine equipment age, frequency of use, and a variety of other critical information to identify gaps and opportunities to leverage existing investments.

Strategic Plan for Statewide Communications Interoperability

The Strategic Plan for Statewide Communications Interoperability (SCIP) was developed by the CICO, the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and the Advisory Group in response to § 9.1-1100 of the Code of Virginia. The SCIP seeks to enhance data and voice communications interoperability between local, regional, State and Federal agencies. The ultimate goal is for agencies and their representatives at the local, regional, State, and Federal levels and their private sector and non-profit partners to communicate using compatible systems, in real time, across disciplines and jurisdictions.

All agencies and localities must comply with and achieve consistency with the Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan by July 1, 2015 in order to remain eligible to receive State or Federal funds for communication programs and systems. The Commonwealth will continue to support the annual update and implementation of the SCIP to ensure that the Plan remains viable and current.

Statewide Agencies Radio System

The Statewide Agencies Radio System (STARS) Program will facilitate the communications of 21 participating State agencies by upgrading the existing Virginia State Police land mobile and microwave radio networks. STARS will create an integrated, seamless, statewide, wireless voice and data communications system designed to meet the needs of these agencies. The system will be shared by agencies engaged in public safety, protection, and service; and will facilitate interoperability with and between localities at the county and city level. STARS includes Federal users and allows interoperability with their facilities within the Commonwealth. To accomplish this, the program will: increase capacity, upgrade the technology, and enhance coverage of the land mobile radio network; upgrade the technology of, and create disaster recovery alternate paths for, the microwave radio network; and implement statewide law enforcement mobile data.

Connecting State agencies that respond to both routine public service requirements and emergencies often requires coordination of multiple agencies. By facilitating interoperability with and between localities at the county and city level, STARS will enable State agency responders – at any location and on any radio platform – to seamlessly communicate, facilitating the move from independent operation to interdependent collaboration and cooperation. The program is currently being built statewide (At this point, STARS has already been implemented in Regions 1 and 5) and is scheduled to be completed by 2009.

Overlay Regional InterOperability Network (ORION): The ORION is a state-of-the-art 700 MHz Project 25 (P25) voice system and 900 MHz high speed mobile data system, which provides wide area command and control communications for the region's first responders. This multi-jurisdictional system went live in February 2007 and currently provides voice and mobile data coverage in the Cities of Chesapeake, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, and Virginia Beach. Hampton Roads received additional funding in 2007 to enhance operations in the original seven (7) jurisdictions and will be expanding with an additional 3 to 4 sites to cover rural parts of Hampton Roads (to include Franklin, Isle of Wight, Surry and York/James City county area).

Radio Caches

While STARS will link 21 State agencies onto one wide digital voice and data system, it will not provide these communications for localities. To ensure Virginia will be able to provide emergency communications in a disaster, three strategic radio caches have been established that can respond statewide during times of need. Three localities won a competitive process to identify where the caches will be located. The City of Chesapeake, Fairfax County, and the City of Harrisonburg will host radio caches comprised of 300-500 portable radios, a portable tower, gateway devices and repeaters to establish communications anywhere in the Commonwealth. These caches will have the same types of equipment, so training can be standardized and staffing needs can be provided by all three localities.

These caches were awarded using \$5 million from 2006 HSGP funding, and all three localities are currently moving into the procurement phase (which should be complete within the next 5 months). Additionally the Commonwealth continues to support the need for a standard Geographical Information System (GIS) and WebEOC. This is a priority of the State

Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) and there are pilot projects being conducted in the City of Richmond.

Interoperability Gateways: Hampton Roads, through federal funding, now has eight networked ACU 1000 Interoperability Gateways to support communications with jurisdictions and agencies that do not have compatible radio communications systems. In 2007 radios were installed in those gateways to support interoperability with ORION, York/James City County/City of Poquoson Radio System, Federal InterOperability (FIO) Channel, and Coast Guard VHF Marine Channels.

Rapid Deployment Solutions Interoperability Project (RDSIP)

The newly formed RDSIP is a pilot project with Sprint and the Commonwealth to provide an on-site mobile communications unit. This unit will facilitate emergency communications and augment response efforts with additional use of radios and a portable tower. The RDSIP will provide 100 radios to each of the three strategic radio caches which will allow communications using the Sprint network statewide.

Conferences

The Fourth Annual Virginia Interoperable Communications Conference was held in 2007 and drew a record 300 local, State and Federal stakeholders to discuss networking and interoperability issues. Each year, this conference helps overcome cultural barriers to interoperability, and to-date Virginia remains the only State with a statewide conference dedicated to this subject.

Local jurisdictions are being encouraged to work with local business organizations to hold joint public/private conferences on preparedness and security-- the Commonwealth will host a conference in May 2008 and many localities have already taken this step as well.

Virginia is a DHS Best Practices Model for Interoperability

Virginia has been consistently recognized by DHS as a Best Practices Model for interoperable communication planning and implementation. Beginning with the Statewide Communications Interoperability Planning (SCIP) Methodology that documented Virginia's initial approach for planning, DHS SAFECOM program has been a strong supporter of the interoperability effort. In fact, SAFECOM's requirements for statewide interoperable communications planning recommends the use of Virginia's SCIP Methodology and Virginia's Strategic Plan as Best Practices guide for completion of statewide plans in all U.S. States and territories.

Other accomplishments made by the end of FY 2007:

- The Commonwealth established and implemented 3 statewide plans using practitioner governance structure.
- CICO and PMO established to coordinate and implement the interoperability effort statewide.
- SIEC coordinates grants to ensure alignment and compliance—over \$9.2 million was distributed by SIEC in 2007.
- COMLINC implemented in Region 1, and central Virginia has a 31 locality regional system out for RFP.

- Radio caches are located in the NCR, Hampton Roads, Richmond, and North/Central Virginia. To ensure swift availability of these resources for agencies on either side of the James River, the radio cache will be split between Chesapeake for the Southside and Hampton for the Peninsula
- Common language protocol has been established and implemented at VSP and other local agencies.
- National Interoperability channels are required in all portable radios and standard nomenclatures identified.
- Public/Private Partnership has been formed between VITA and Northrop Grumman to provide a statewide IT infrastructure
- Funding in Prince George County was used to upgrade the county's radio communications.
- Region VII jurisdictions are communicating and operating together across locality boundaries – communications systems are able to interface with one another. Police, fire, hospitals, and dispatch centers are current examples of regional interoperability.
- Emergency Alert systems in place in Region VII include Reverse 911, satellite or XM radio, television, Roam Secure, and cellular text messaging.
- In data interoperability Virginia is currently working on the EMMA project which is GIS mapping software that is compatible with WebEOC. Along with this, the STARS program has a data component.
- The Virginia Department of Emergency Management and other State agencies are currently implementing WebEOC in the Virginia EOC, as are several localities in their respective EOCs.
- Virginia is working to ensure that the necessary technical support and funding is in place to support, promote and integrate VGIN as an interoperable tool with existing and future technology projects.
- The Hampton Roads Tactical Regional Area Network (HR TacRAN) was funded by a \$6 million Port Security Grant to improve each of the sixteen EOC's in the region, including the Coast Guard and WHRO TV with high speed data connectivity. In 2007 Hampton Roads linked the Virginia Department of Emergency Management into the network to support collaboration capabilities between the Commonwealth and Hampton Roads.

EPI and Warning Accomplishments:

Training and Exercises

The VDEM PIO staff conducts training courses three times a year focusing on emergency training for Public Information Officers (PIOs), and other local individuals who play a role in communicating with the public during emergencies.

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has nine public information officers who receive ongoing training and meet regularly with key media outlets. In addition, VDH has developed a comprehensive communications plan as well as multiple public service announcements and emergency orders for a wide range of potential public health emergencies.

In 2007 VERTEX '07 and two VOPEX exercises tested a wide range of capabilities, including emergency public information and warning.

Limited English Proficiency Outreach

Localities have made efforts to reach populations with limited English proficiency, and VDEM has launched the Listo Virginia campaign. This campaign is a coordinated effort to provide vital preparedness information to Virginia's Latino and Hispanic communities. It will unite State government agencies with private sector and local government partners in a statewide public education effort to prepare Spanish speakers for all hazards, including natural disasters and potential terrorist attacks.

Special Needs Outreach

Ten Regional Community Based Emergency Response Seminars (entitled “Preparing All Abilities”) were recently conducted by VDEM, VDH, Citizen Corps, VDDHH and many others in a collaborative effort to communicate and educate individuals with special needs. In addition, localities have made efforts to reach out to special needs populations by conducting ten Regional Community Based Emergency Response Seminars – Preparing All Abilities – a collaborative effort between VDEM, VDH, Citizen Corps, VDDHH and many others.

Communicating with the Private Sector

The EOC PIO and VDEM PIO are both partnering with the media to disseminate information to the business community and have created a business preparedness toolkit.

Conferences

Four times per year, Region Media Council Meetings are held in each of Virginia’s four main media markets (NVA, Richmond, Hampton roads, Roanoke). These meetings are attended by State PIOs and help foster the development of relationships between the media and State/local PIOs.

Public Alert System

The Statewide Alerts Network (SWAN) project has just begun operating and is used to primarily to notify the Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT), VDEM personnel, and the Virginia Department of Transportation. The project uses a software program called “Roam Secure” which is a private, dedicated system for alerts.

Alert System for Nuclear Plants

Virginia has two nuclear plants – North Anna and Surry. There is a siren box in the EOC of all jurisdictions within a 25 mile radius of the two plants. There is one siren box for each plant, and most of this infrastructure is funded by Dominion Power.

Emergency Management Network

The VEOC uses the Emergency Management Network (EMNet), which is a secure and encrypted site, to record and release audio messages and to receive automatic weather reports via satellite. There are 2 EMNet Systems currently in place – one is used by the State Police (for Amber Alerts) and the other is used for emergency management items (and is hosted by COMLABS).

Currently, two EMNet computers are located within the hurricane prone and highly populated areas, Regions 1 and 5. VDEM will be adding 22 additional systems to better cover the hurricane prone coastal areas.

VDEM Public Affairs Office

VDEM maintains a website that has links to various emergency preparedness and response sites, historic information pertaining to state disasters, a library of forms and articles, and funding sources available to localities. Prior to and during emergency or disaster situations, “hits” on the site go up dramatically, at times more than doubling the normal number of visits to the website within a small period of time. For mass communication of preparedness plans for citizenry and businesses, the website has proven to be an invaluable tool for information dissemination and resources for the public.

The Virginia Public Inquiry Center (VPIC)

In preparation for and response to events, the Governor may authorize the staffing of the VPIC, a telephone call center, to respond to the questions and concerns of the citizenry and provide general safety and resource information, and to coordinate and manage unaffiliated volunteers and unsolicited donations. The VPIC is located in the DMV call center in downtown Richmond.

“Ready Virginia” Campaign

The “Ready Virginia” Campaign, launched in 2007, is Virginia’s version of DHS’s national community preparedness campaign Ready.Gov. It includes a website along with TV and Radio public service announcements. The campaign is based on Ready.gov campaign, and brochures and pamphlets have published to educate the public about a wide range of community preparedness issues.

Regional accomplishments for Emergency Public Information and Warning

- In Region VII, modes of public communication are SMS messages, next generation 911 and wireless calls.
- The town of Goshen in Rockbridge County experienced a total loss of water for an entire week. PIOs successfully provided information to community residents regarding health precautions and the availability of clean drinking water.
- The shootings on the Virginia Tech campus in April that left 32 dead, was an emergency event that required the PIOs to establish a Joint Information Center (JIC) for over two weeks in order to provide emergency information to the public and media. These two events, plus a number of training initiatives, helped enhance the State and local emergency public information and warning capability.

B. Current Capabilities

Communications Capability:

Interoperability

Governance:

The current degree of interoperable communications governance varies at local and regional levels; however, statewide governance is strong and provides representation for all of Virginia's responders. Region 7 (NCR UASI) has, and Region 5 (Hampton UASI) is moving toward, Regular Key Staff Collaboration and a Regional Committee. The other 5 Regions are at the SAFECOM continuum level of Informal Coordination between Agencies. The statewide governance structure consists of the Commonwealth Interoperability Coordinator's Office (CICO) within the Governor's Office of Commonwealth Preparedness, the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) made up of practitioners groups, the Regional Preparedness Advisory Committees (RPACs) made up of regional local government, private sector and non-profit representatives and Initiative Action teams (IATs) created to assist with the implementation of specific SCIP initiatives.

Technology in Each Region:

Region 1 (Richmond) has varied levels of technology capabilities from Gateways to Proprietary Shared Systems. This region is characterized by diverse implementation of radio systems (primarily VHF and 800 MHz with some areas of UHF and low band). COMLINC has been implemented in 16 localities, along with the Virginia State Police and STARS Agencies in VSP Division 1. The 800 MHz systems that currently exist in the Richmond metro area qualify as proprietary shared systems and several of the surrounding localities are planning to link into the Richmond metro system.

Region 2 also has varied levels of technology capabilities from Gateways to Shared Channels and small scale shared 800 MHz systems. This region is characterized by UHF and 800 MHz (with some VHF), and SIRS is also used for inter-jurisdictional interoperability.

Region 3 varies in its level of technology from anticipated Gateways to Shared Channels and several medium scale shared 800 MHz systems. This region is characterized by diverse implementation of radio systems at UHF, VHF and 800 MHz. Acquisition of a COMLINC gateway is in process and there is a VHF system that currently "splits" the two primary shared 800 MHz systems apart geographically.

Region 4 varies in its level of technology from Shared Channels used for SIRS to Independent Systems and is characterized by primarily VHF with some UHF and low band technology.

Region 5 (Hampton UASI) is at the level of Proprietary Shared Systems on the continuum. The Tidewater area uses 800 MHz and is implementing Overlay Regional Interoperability Network (ORION) at 700 MHz as an interoperability system. Member jurisdictions include York County, James City County, the City of Poquoson, the City of Williamsburg, the National Park Service, the College of William and Mary, and the Kingsmill Police. This system continues to expand its coverage area and will soon include Gloucester County. Hampton Roads is also equipped with regional public safety network that links all Hampton Roads jurisdictions via an OC3 (155MBps) microwave network. The network is fully operational and being used by the emergency managers and the Coast Guard for routine communications and exercises. The local public television station, WRHO TV, is also linked to the network to facilitate dissemination of important information to the Hampton Roads regional audience. This backbone supports the connectivity to the ORION system. Finally, Hampton Roads has eight (8) fixed networked

operation ACU-1000 interoperability gateways operating with Wide Area Interoperability Software to support communications with jurisdictions and agencies that do not have compatible radio communications systems. All units are accessible from any one of the eight (8) locations in Hampton Roads.

Region 6 varies in its level of technology from Gateways to Proprietary Shared Systems. This region is characterized by diverse implementation of radio systems at UHF, VHF and 800 MHz. Acquisition of a COMLINC gateway is in process and this is intended to connect to the COMLINC effort in Region 3. There are shared 800 MHz systems in the Roanoke area, while Danville and Pittsylvania County are implementing the Piedmont Regional Voice over IP (VoIP) Pilot Project with North Carolina. Other localities utilize Shared Channels for agencies in the same frequency band. Even so, there is a variety of UHF, VHF and 800 MHz systems across the region that still remain non-interoperable.

Region 7 (NCR UASI) is at the level of Proprietary Shared Systems on the continuum. This region uses 800 MHz trunked radio systems and the users have common talk groups in each others radios, which provide interoperability between localities. The State Agencies vary from Gateways to Standards-based Shared Systems. COMLINC is an integral part of the STARS system, which is in the process of being implemented across the Commonwealth, starting with VSP Divisions 1 and 5.

Current Technology Capabilities:

There are several technology projects underway throughout the Commonwealth that are enhancing the overall effort. These projects and resulting capabilities are as follows:

- The development of the operations model and the subsequent Technical Plan will assist practitioners in their procurement decisions as well as providing potential economies of scale. SIRS is a low band frequency 39.54 MHz system developed to communicate between localities and the Virginia State Police. As technology is upgraded in localities, a patch will be necessary to continue the use of SIRS.
- State Agencies Radio System (STARS) is an integrated, seamless, statewide, wireless voice and data communications system which, when fully deployed, will facilitate the communications of 21 State agencies and several federal users. STARS is also being deployed to assist with coverage in six of the major tunnel systems within the Commonwealth.
- The statewide deployable Strategic Radio Cache Resources, located in Chesapeake and Hampton (half each), Harrisonburg and Fairfax serve as tactical resources when planning for catastrophic loss of communications. These are self contained resources that can be deployed across the State within a short timeframe to provide communications in disaster environments.
- VSP has three mobile command posts and VDEM has a mobile command post, a communications trailer, a command trailer, two portable 60-foot towers and a 75-foot tower and two briefcase satellite phones; and VITA has a portable UHF 20-watt repeater and 30-35 UHF portables all of which can be deployed through the State EOC to incident locations across the Commonwealth in a short time frame.
- VITA has consolidated its GIS, E-911 and Telecommunications Techs into an Integrated Services Program (ISP) to provide assistance and guidance to practitioners in the field as

the statewide telecommunications network infrastructure is deployed in partnership with Northrop Grumman. The SIEC is a critical partner in requirements definition for this effort.

- The COMLINC (Commonwealth's Link to Interoperable Communications) project leverages VoIP technology to connect disparate communications systems. Region 1 and the Lynchburg/Roanoke Regions Joint Project are both working to address a COMLINC solution.
- WebEOC is a web-based, real-time incident viewing and incident tracking management system that was recently purchased by the Virginia EOC. This capability is shared with several localities and with Maryland and Washington DC.

Additional technological capabilities which are specific to the major metropolitan areas are referenced in the 2008 Virginia SCIP (pages 47-58). In addition funding assistance for technology is coordinated through the SIEC and the CICO to enhance SCIP implementation and provide strategic guidance and technological assistance for practitioners.

Standard Operating Procedures:

The current status of interoperable communications standard operating procedures varies across the Commonwealth. Region 1 (Richmond) varies in its level of SOPs from Individual Agency SOPs to localities using 800 MHz using NIMS Integrated SOPs. Regions 2, 3, 4 and 6 are at the minimum level on the SAFECOM continuum in that they are using Individual Agency SOPs exclusively at this point in time. Region 5 (Hampton UASI) is at the optimal level on the continuum because they use NIMS Integrated SOPs. Region 7 (NCR UASI) and the State Agencies are just below the optimal level and are half-way between using a Regional Set of Communications SOPs and using NIMS Integrated SOPs.

The Commonwealth currently supports deployment of the Common Language Protocol throughout the State, led by the example of the State agencies' adoption and implementation. In addition, Virginia is using NIMS typing as a model for statewide deployable radio cache resources. The Commonwealth also participated in the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council's (NPSTC) efforts to create standard nomenclature for national interoperability channels through the development of an IAT to review recommendations and provide direct input to the effort.

The CICO and the SIEC are cooperating to develop the needed operational protocols prior to the purchase of technology through a collaborative multi-jurisdictional and multi-discipline approach using the IATs, such as was done with the radio cache resources. Additionally, the SIEC and CICO are working with users to leverage existing operating procedures and documenting best practices both within the Commonwealth and with fellow States. Virginia is committed to providing leadership, support, and guidance in the use of NIMS and the Incident Command System (ICS). This point is evidenced by Governor Warner's Executive Order 102, which requires the adoption of NIMS and use of the National Preparedness Goal for preventing, responding to and recovering from crisis events in the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth has a draft operational model to demonstrate the needs of practitioners in Virginia and identify a minimal acceptable level of interoperability for all agencies. The final

version of this operational model is scheduled to be ready for distribution to interoperability stakeholders in May of 2008.

The National Capital Region (NCR) has developed a Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP), which was approved by DHS OG&T in 2006. The NCR Regional Programmatic Working Group for Interoperability (RPWG-I), as directed by the NCR leadership, oversees and maintains the NCR TICP through regular reviews and updates. The NCR TICP was exercised in 2007 and as a result the NCR was ranked as one of the top five areas in the nation by DHS for its interoperable communications scorecard.

The Hampton Roads UASI was announced in 2007 and as such has just recently developed its Overlay Regional Interoperability Network (ORION) TICP as a foundation for a more comprehensive Regional TICP that will include the additional jurisdictions outlined in the UASI. The new and comprehensive TICP is scheduled to be finalized for practitioner use in early spring 2008.

Training and Exercises:

Each of the seven Regions and the State Agencies are at diverse levels on the SAFECOM Continuum with respect to training and exercises. Region 1 (Richmond) is just below level three on the continuum since the localities conduct Multiagency Tabletop Exercises less than once a year on average. Regions 2, 3, 5 and 6 are between levels two and three on the continuum as Multiagency Tabletop Exercises are conducted annually or less by two-thirds of the localities (one-third do not conduct any type of multiagency or regional training at all). Region 4 is at level 2 on the continuum since over one-half of the localities do not conduct multiagency or regional training and exercises at all. Region 7 is at the optimal level on the continuum because Regular Comprehensive Regional Training and Exercises are conducted annually in the NCR. The State Agencies are at level 3 on the continuum since sixty percent are conducting Multiagency Tabletop Exercises, while over half are not conducting Multiagency Full Functional Exercises.

The CICO works closely with VDEM to ensure that, where feasible, interoperable communications is a component of training courses and exercises throughout the Commonwealth. Information on a variety of courses that contain an interoperable communications component is available through the VDEM website and is promulgated by the CICO through the list serve, newsletters and briefings. The CICO supports VDEM's efforts to promote ICS and NIMS courses as well as VDEM's efforts to comply with the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP). Particularly, in 2007, the CICO worked with VDEM to incorporate an interoperability component into the annual Emergency Operation Center Exercise (VERTEX).

Interoperable Communications Usage:

The current degree of interoperable communications usage is consistent across the Commonwealth. In each of the seven Regions and in the State Agencies Usage is consistently reported to be in the middle of the Planned Events and Localized Emergency Incidents levels of the SAFECOM Continuum. This is due to the consistent diversity within the regions between the first two levels of usage. Current outreach efforts to the regions are geared towards

improving usage levels over the coming year. In addition, current grant and Virginia Code compliance requirements are also serving to improve usage levels across the Commonwealth.

Emergency Public Information and Warning Capability:

The following emergency public information and warning capabilities are currently in place in the Commonwealth:

- The emergency operations plan (EOP) specifies how and when to enact the public information function as well as public alert and warning functions.
- The emergency operations plan (EOP) specifies how and when to enact a Joint Information System (JIS).
- Emergency Alert System (EAS) activation plan is in place and is tested regularly.
- A Public awareness and education plan is in place with all appropriate agencies and partners.
- Plans for the Joint Information Center (JIC) include multi-jurisdictional, multi-disciplinary agencies, the private sector, nongovernmental organizations, and staffing each of the JIC functions.
- A communications plan is in place to communicate changes in threat level (in the Homeland Security Advisory System) to the public.
- A comprehensive Public Information Field Guide is in place.
- Procedures are in place for communicating with internal and external groups and individuals about disasters and emergencies following established standards, as appropriate (e.g. the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) and the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1600).
- Preparedness information is widely distributed in languages appropriate to the cultural and ethnic needs of the populations of the area.

C. Three-Year Targets

Communications Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Complete the statewide STARS network initiative.	2010	Open
Implement Type 3-5 Radio Caches in rural areas.	2010	Open
Evaluate and address gaps in common language protocol and use.	2010	Open
Fully implement the 7 RPAC-Is.	2010	Open
Achieve communications operability in Regions 4, 6 and 3.	2010	Open
Achieve COMLINC build out in at least 50% of localities.	2010	Open
Reevaluate Communications Interoperability Baseline to identify and address gaps.	2010	Open

Achieve inter-Regional interoperability between at least 4 of the 7 Regions.	2010	Open
Identify and provide communications interoperability outreach to private sector CI/KR asset owners and operators.	2010	Open
Facilitate training and conduct of several full scale exercises throughout the Commonwealth to test the operational aspects of different COMLINC systems.	2010	Open
Enhance communications relationships and share best practices with federal and neighboring state partners.	2010	Open
Conduct communications outreach activities in each of the 7 Regions.	2010	Open
Improve interoperable communications in Region 5 in support of natural and/or man made disasters.	2010	Open

The SCIP identifies the following overarching goals for 2015:

- As appropriate utilize common language, coordinated protocols and standards statewide.
- Integrate existing and future communications systems.
- Facilitate training to enhance effective use of communications systems.
- Create a common understanding of communications interoperability throughout the Commonwealth.

The SCIP identifies the following strategic objectives for 2015:

- Manage statewide interoperability governance and outreach.
- Achieve communications operability as necessary to support interoperability.
- Achieve voice and data interoperable communications within each locality to enhance multi-discipline response capabilities.
- Achieve multi-discipline and multi-jurisdiction voice and data interoperable communications to enhance regional response capabilities.
- Enhance state agencies' voice and data interoperable communications across the Commonwealth to provide comprehensive support during emergencies.
- Provide region to region and region to state voice and data interoperable communications to enhance mutual aid response capabilities.
- Create communications back-up and redundancy for interoperability systems to ensure communications are maintained following catastrophic events.
- Support interoperable communications with federal entities and other states to respond to national and multi-state emergencies.
- Achieve the integration of private entities identified as part of critical infrastructure/key resources and the participants in the state Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) into interoperability efforts to ensure communications are maintained during emergencies and recovery efforts.

SAFECOM Continuum Lanes & Percent of Achievement Targets

The SAFECOM Continuum was created to provide guidance to states and localities as they work to achieve interoperability. Each lane in the SAFECOM Continuum contains progressive levels which help the practitioner to identify progress towards optimal interoperability.

Governance Lane:

The desired end-point for the Governance lane is to have achieved the optimal level of the continuum by creating a Regional Interoperability Committee in each of the Seven (7) Regions and Aligning State Agency Groups, such that all will work with the State Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC) towards interoperability solutions across the Commonwealth. Currently the Commonwealth has achieved approximately 58% of this desired end-point.

Technology Lane:

The desired end-point for the Technology lane is to have achieved the optimal level of the continuum by creating a system of standards-based shared systems that covers the entire Commonwealth. Currently the Commonwealth has achieved approximately 56% of this desired end-point.

Standard Operating Procedures Lane:

The desired end-point for the Standard Operating Procedures lane is to have achieved the optimal level of the continuum by creating a system of National Incident Management System (NIMS) Integrated SOPs that extends throughout the entire Commonwealth. Currently the Commonwealth has achieved approximately 48% of this desired end-point.

Training and Exercises Lane:

The desired end-point for the Training and Exercises lane is to have achieved the optimal level of the continuum by creating a series of Regular Comprehensive Regional Training and Exercises that encompasses the seven Regions and State Agencies. Currently the Commonwealth has achieved approximately 56% of this desired end-point.

Usage Lane:

The desired end-point for the Usage lane is the creation of a system where there is daily use of the SAFECOM Continuum throughout the seven Regions and the State Agencies across the Commonwealth. Currently the Commonwealth has achieved approximately 37.5% of this desired end-point.

Emergency Public Information and Warning Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Identify special needs populations and develop multiple methods for communicating with these groups.	2010	Open
Establish formal relationships between the Commonwealth and broadcast media for assistance delivering emergency public information.	2010	Open
Prepare citizens to deter, prevent, respond to, and recover	2010	Open

from a disaster through participation in education and training programs and access to a timely and accurate public information system.		
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D. Initiatives

Communications Capability:

Development of a Migration Plan to achieve target interoperability capabilities. (All Targets)

The State Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) is the statewide strategy which encompasses the development of a Migration Plan to work towards achieving the targeted capabilities for operability and interoperability. The implementation of this Plan will be coordinated by the CICO and supported by the governance structure to ensure full completion of strategic initiatives. CICO project management and monthly SIEC meetings (coupled with more organized regional coordination) will provide the oversight and guidance to accomplish the 2008 initiatives, distribute and manage PSIC and other funding to locals, and develop the 2009 Statewide Plan. These SIEC meetings provide the forum for on-going input into implementation and update of the Plan.

IATs will be assembled and facilitated to develop the operations model (Initiative 1) and the technical strategy (Initiative 2), identify the requirements associated with deploying national interoperability channels statewide, and discuss a strategy for statewide WebEOC and GIS capabilities. IATs typically consist of 5-15 stakeholders with specific expertise, experience, or influence that can bring about the development of core guidance and best practices for the subject matter under review.

Additional initiatives will be managed and conducted by the CICO including radio cache, COMLINC, and RDSIP. These initiatives were in their developmental phases last year and will be taken to further implementation, buy-in and compliance this year.

Finally, outreach will be conducted throughout the year to provide guidance to stakeholders through the annual conference, a list serve, and the website; to elected officials through the annual report and other briefings provided to the State delegation; to the media through press releases, interviews, and articles; and finally to the federal government through participation on key committees and continued work with the National Guard.

The CICO will continue to work with the SIEC, RPACs and IATs to review, update and implement the SCIP. The CICO will create and foster RPAC – Interoperability Committees (RPAC-Is) in each of the seven Regions, specifically to address regional interoperability issues and provide a stronger means of two-way interaction between the localities in each region and the SIEC and CICO.

The CICO will continue to address the requirements outlined in Governor Warner's Executive Order 102 (2005) by building on the common language roll-out, the adoption of standard

nomenclature, the use of national interoperability channels, continued support for NIMS training and exercises and ongoing promotion of NIMS compliance and the use of ICS.

The CICO and SIEC will provide outreach to educate interoperability stakeholders about the newly developed operations model for practitioners to use in determining their level of interoperability and their next steps to improve that level. The CICO will also continue its relationship with VDEM to incorporate interoperable communications and local practitioners into exercises as possible.

Virginia has acknowledged that, while progress has been made in many areas, more tactical planning is necessary across the regions. Therefore, Virginia will leverage the baseline assessment to develop regional operations models, based off of the statewide operational model, that will be a preliminary step to the development of regional TICPs in the non-UASI regions. In turn, all of the regional TICPs will collectively contribute to the formulation of a statewide TICP.

The Statewide effort has several *on-going initiatives* that will continue to be implemented and monitored throughout 2008. These initiatives are conducted and overseen by the CICO and the SIEC.

- Coordinate interoperable communications projects at the local, regional, and State level.
- Maintain the governance structure and its components through regular meetings and practitioner-based decision-making to make grant, procedural, and policy recommendations to the Governor's Office.
- Develop, distribute, and promote interoperable communications information to stakeholders.
- Reach out to local, State, and federal agencies as well as neighboring States to encourage and foster adoption of the common language protocol.
- Manage the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant and the collaborative process that supports regional communication projects.
- Promote NIMS compliance and the use of the Incident Command System (ICS).
- Incorporate interoperable communications into existing statewide exercises and grant recipient training.
- Establish Interoperability Working Groups for each of the Regional Preparedness Advisory Committees (RPACs).
- Develop and distribute an Annual Report to the Governor's Office.

The following *new 2008 initiatives*, which support elements of the Migration Plan, were developed in compliance with the SAFECOM requirements for statewide planning:

Initiative 1: Define minimum levels of operable and interoperable communications capabilities for each region

- Develop an interoperable communications operations model
- Utilize the Commonwealth Communications Baseline Survey to help localities determine their specific operational needs for voice and data communications
 - Engage RPACs to obtain guidance from regional stakeholders
- Identify operational gaps for each region
 - Address gaps to the extent possible with available resources
 - Focus on operability projects in rural communities

Initiative 2: Match specific voice and data solutions to identified regional operational needs, and address connectivity and sustainability.

- Develop a technology strategy that describes the system of systems vision and the overall direction of interoperability in the State
- Evaluate existing technology systems by region to better plan for technology installations
- Identify opportunities to leverage the statewide IT infrastructure projects in the technical strategy
- Address connectivity and sustainability for interoperability solutions

Initiative 3: Continue to establish Strategic Technology Reserve (STR) to enhance back-up communications capability within the Commonwealth of Virginia

- Complete the type I strategic radio caches in Harrisonburg/Rockingham, Chesapeake, and Fairfax County
- Provide assistance and coordination to newly awarded caches
 - Develop an MOU for statewide usage in collaboration with the Attorney General's Office
 - Determination of standard technology purchases
 - Devise an exercise and training program for inclusion into pre-existing exercises
- Provide information to localities regarding the availability of newly awarded caches and how to request the resource
- Expand local grant process for Type III-V caches
 - Dependent upon funding
- Finalize statewide-deployable radio cache policies and procedures with VDEM involving cache request from the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Monitor existing caches and document Lessons Learned
- Support the Rapid Deployment Solutions Interoperability Project (RDSIP) pilot to provide a statewide resource for emergency communications
 - Develop an evaluation plan for deployment of the resource for planned and unplanned events statewide
 - Identify eight deployment opportunities
 - Monitor exercises and document Lessons Learned
 - Coordinate with VDEM and the SIEC to capture lessons learned and recommendations on continued support for the RDSIP

Initiative 4: Promote the establishment of regional systems of systems and interface with STARS to localities and regions to expand communications among disparate systems

- Compile and distribute lessons learned from existing COMLINC installations
- Identify more cost effective solutions for patching capabilities for disparate radio systems
- Review capabilities and limitations of all possible patching solutions
- Explore costs and sustainability for connectivity options

Initiative 5: Support expansion of national interoperability channels in all bands to allow responders to use their home system's radio regardless of location within the Commonwealth of Virginia

- Encourage the use of standard nomenclature for national interoperability channels in all user radios in alignment with National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) guidance
- Encourage programming of National Interoperability Channels in all radios

Initiative 6: Support the expansion, deployment and integration of WebEOC and Geographic Information Systems (GIS) statewide to coordinate incident management data interoperability

- Monitor current projects for WebEOC/GIS and develop lessons learned
- Coordinate with VDEM and VITA to establish new instances of WebEOC/GIS within the State and across State borders and coordinate interfacing among existing instances of the software

Initiative 7: Ensure portable and mobile radio purchases and replacements are P-25 and narrowband compliant.

- Require the national interoperability frequencies to be programmed into portable and mobile radios when purchased with grant funds
- Conduct outreach to communicate the importance of P-25 standards and the narrowband requirements from the Federal Communications Committee

Geographic Scope:

This group of initiatives will be statewide but may require a phased approach to implementation, focusing on the areas of greatest impact and risk first and expanding over the next five years to additional areas.

Program Management:

These initiatives align with the Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) which is the guiding document for the Commonwealth's interoperability efforts. The Commonwealth understands that achieving communications interoperability will not be immediate fix and as a result has a 2015 deadline for statewide, multi-jurisdictional communications interoperability.

To ensure the success of the initiative, the Commonwealth will need to develop grant guidance, assist regions in obtaining grant dollars, provide training and outreach for potential interoperability solutions, install new infrastructure, and establish a tracking process for possible solutions. Grant guidance, grant assistance, and training will be overseen and provided by the governance structure. Additional funding will be needed to install new infrastructure. Existing infrastructure will be leveraged to avoid system redundancy and keep costs low.

Enhance communications operability in rural areas. (Targets 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 12, 13)

Description:

The Commonwealth of Virginia consists of densely populated urban cities as well as hundreds of rural communities. As high-risk urban regions continue to advance interoperability capabilities, the rural areas of Virginia continue to require additional assistance for both operability and interoperability. The sheer cost of communications equipment has eliminated operability

possibilities for many rural areas. Overcoming this gap was ranked first in a prioritization exercise for improving voice communications.

Implementation of this initiative will provide a communications capability that does not currently exist and will set the stage for eventual regional interoperability. Additionally, it will lessen communication inefficiencies while creating a safer and more effective environment for public safety practitioners in rural regions. This initiative will be accomplished by:

- Building on the State baseline to identify rural areas with greatest need;
- Conducting awareness training opportunities to discuss communications options; and
- Securing funds to purchase new or leverage existing equipment and infrastructure.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative will primarily focus on the following four of the Commonwealth's seven homeland security regions:

- Region 2 (Culpeper)
- Region 3 (Central Virginia)
- Region 4 (Southwest Virginia)
- Region 6 (Roanoke)

Program Management:

This initiative aligns with the Commonwealth of Virginia Statewide Communications Interoperability Plan (SCIP) which is the guiding document for the Commonwealth's interoperability efforts. The Commonwealth relies on its practitioner-driven interoperability governance structure to coordinate, oversee, and make decisions for all interoperability efforts. Existing resources include the members of this governance structure which represent public safety practitioners from across the State. These resources, in conjunction with the existing process for the approval and dissemination of funds and the interoperability baseline, will determine which localities will be addressed through a phased process of initiative implementation.

Additional resources outside the current scope and funding ability of the governance structure will be needed to fully accomplish this initiative. The tools, resources and processes needed to enhance operability in Virginia's rural regions include the collection of unbiased and non-vendor specific information, trainers and training materials to provide working sessions on communication options, engineering assistance, RFP development assistance, and funding for system implementations.

Link all the Hampton Roads jurisdictions together and improve communications in Region 5 through a three-tiered procurement program. (Targets 8, 9, 11, 12, 13)

Description:

This initiative seeks to improve Hampton Roads interoperable communications through the following three-tiered program.

Transportable Communications Sites

Two transportable (mobile) communications sites will be established to support the voice and data communications requirements of Federal, State, and local public safety agencies responding to natural or man-made disasters. These transportable sites will provide on-site communications capability for large-scale events in situations when local systems are down as well as when they are operational. The two transportable units will be strategically located (one on the Peninsula and one on the Southside of Hampton Roads) to ensure rapid deployment of the units anywhere in the Region 5 to support public safety communications during an event such as a hurricane or terrorist attack. Maintenance and deployment of these transportable sites will be incorporated into regional disaster planning, training and exercises.

This project will provide the Hampton Roads Region and other jurisdictions within Region 5 with two self-contained rapidly deployable communications systems, which will support voice and data communications during and after an “all hazards” event. The event could be a man-made or natural disaster, which completely disables one or more of the primary communications systems within the region, or one that requires response from several different disciplines operating on disparate communications systems. This project is aligned with the Statewide Strategic Plan and supports the Vision, Mission, and Goal #3 of the Plan.

Tactical Audio Equipment

Each jurisdiction within the Hampton Roads Region and others in Region 5 will be provided with two tactical audio switches or interoperability boxes and one radio per switch. These audio switches and radios will provide local incident commanders with the ability to quickly integrate disparate communications systems at the scene of an incident. Thirty six audio switches, thirty six portable radios, and appropriate supporting equipment, such as cables, will be purchased and installed in designated incident command vehicles to support interoperable communications between the incident commander and various other public safety agencies that respond to an incident. Those agencies include local, State, Federal, and military agencies that may be called in to support an event such as a hurricane or a terrorist attack.

Procuring the tactical audio switches and radios and incorporating them into regional “all-hazards” planning, training, and exercises will enable local regional, State and Federal agencies to communicate across disciplines and jurisdictions, and to respond more effectively during major incidents. These tactical audio switches are system agnostic and have the capability to integrate existing and future communications systems. The audio switches will support integrating VHF, UHF, 800 MHz, 700 MHz, and P25 radio systems together during at tactical incident, which may require rapid integration. The linkage provided by these “interoperability boxes” will provide on-scene Incident Commanders with the ability to communicate more effectively.

Radio Location Sites

Hampton Roads will install new radio location sites in jurisdictions that will allow command first responders communicate throughout entire the region on a common command channel. The proposed project will add new radio location sites that benefit all jurisdictions in the Hampton Roads region. For example, an officer traveling to one are of the region will be able to communicate back to their home jurisdiction. In addition to the new radio location sites we will be procuring 700 MHz P25 radio subscriber units to operate on this regional network to assist

regional first responders with evacuation issues, emergency response and recovery transport of a large scale regional incident. This system utilizes integrated voice and data and has the latest level of encryption and digital features available to public safety first responders. The proposed project will also utilize already existing 700MHz licenses provided by the Commonwealth of Virginia in support of the region. The system maximizes spectrum to allow for region-wide command and control communications over five (5) 700MHz frequencies with no impact to existing local or regionally allocated licenses.

Geographic Scope

This initiative would augment the communications capabilities of the sixteen jurisdictions within Hampton Roads.

Program Management

This initiative would likely be funded by the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Grant Program. The new radio locations will be operating in the 700Mhz on one of the few systems with a current operational system in the reallocated spectrum. Each agency has a user representative that participates in an advisory capacity and will operate in accordance with the Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) developed for the region. In addition, there is a Communication Unit Leader (COML) for each jurisdiction that is fully versed in the coordination and deployment requirements and will assist the Incident Commander in establishing the necessary communications plan for large scale incidents.

The Hampton Roads Interoperability Advisory Committee (HRICAC), which includes representatives of the sixteen jurisdictions, will work with its advisory groups to establish policies and procedures, plans, training, and exercises to ensure sustainability and rapid deployment of the mobile communication sites.

Emergency Public Information and Warning Capability:

Improve Virginia's emergency public information capabilities at the State and local levels. (Targets 1, 2, 3)

Description:

This initiative addresses several needs identified during the analysis by focusing on the following actions:

Planning, Training and Exercises

- The PIO Course, sponsored by VDEM, will be expanded to four times per year in 2008.
- VERTEX, VOPEX, and regional exercises (which involve emergency public information and warning play and provide opportunity for local citizen groups' participation) will continue and expand.
- A first draft of the Comprehensive Hurricane Evacuation and Sheltering Communications Plan will be issued in 2008 and will be further developed and tested in 2008 – 2010. OCP has the lead, and VDEM, VDOT, VSP, DSS, and VDH Public Information Officers (PIOs) are involved as well.
- A current list of all PIOs in the Commonwealth needs to be developed and updated regularly as part of this initiative.

Joint Information Center (JIC) Operations

- The State will staff the JIC with PIOs from ‘nontraditional’ agencies, who are trained by VDEM on the State’s emergency operations plan, as well as by people from the Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC). Currently the JIC uses a variety of VERT and Non-VERT PIOs--for example at the Virginia Tech tragedy a Mines, Minerals, and Energy PIO was used because of his proximity to the situation.
- Local governments and the State are working to ensure that during an emergency, the JIC is activated quickly and according to established SOPs, thereby allowing government to speak with “one voice” in a timely, accurate, consistent, and coordinated manner. This function is practiced annually in the VERTEX exercise.
- There are currently two coordination tools available. The Virtual JIC being used in the National Capital Region and WebEOC. One of the platforms could be used by PIOs to coordinate on a local, regional or statewide basis during emergencies.

Outreach

- Virginia is working to develop an outreach campaign to educate citizens on personal plan development and how they can prepare to be self-sustaining for 72 hours following a disaster.
- The Ready Virginia Campaign will continue and expand its reach.
- The statewide advertising campaign will be further developed and launched in the 2008-2010 period.
- The State will continue to build partnerships with the media, localities and private industry to best coordinate the distribution of preparedness information as well as to inform and coordinate emergency response efforts (including efforts to reach special needs, limited English proficient, and transient populations).

Geographic Scope:

This issue affects all regions in the State, but especially rural areas that do not have full-time PIOs.

Program Management:

This initiative helps improve expanded regional collaboration by improving emergency public information capabilities through plan development and training for public information personnel. Many localities have PIOs, but not all of these individuals understand the specific needs of the public during an emergency. Several regional PIO organizations currently exist, and these groups can be used to increase coordination on a local, regional and statewide level. There is also an association of government PIOs that include local and State level PIOs. Individuals from these groups will be selected to manage this effort.

Identify special needs populations in Virginia and develop/improve means to communicate with these individuals. (Target 1)

Description:

This initiative addresses the emergency public information need identified unanimously by the stakeholder group as the number one emergency public information priority. To accomplish this initiative, Virginia is working to:

- Define the term “special needs,” which is key to this initiative.
- Use census information as well as information from regional local community groups (including faith-based and VOAD organizations) who have relationships with special needs populations to identify populations requiring additional information and assistance.
- Identify and develop multiple methods and capabilities for communicating with special needs populations should be used (including automated dialing programs, phone trees, and various outdoor and indoor warning systems).
- Ensure broadcast, verbal, and written materials meet Americans with Disabilities Act and other Federal requirements.
- Ensure that technology being used to communicate with the special needs population is exercised regularly and can reach deaf, hard of hearing and blind populations through alternative means.
- Develop pre-scripted messages with appropriate content and format for reaching special needs populations (including specific information about special needs transportation, evacuation, and sheltering locations).
- Determine which State and local governments have translated emergency public information materials into different languages.

Geographic Scope:

This issue affects both rural and urban areas throughout the Commonwealth, and the initiative is statewide.

Program Management:

This statewide initiative requires a steering committee with representatives from different regions and levels of government as well as the special needs community, advocacy groups, and relevant non-profit organizations.

Identify new technologies and expand existing technology to improve public warning capabilities. (Targets 1, 3)

Description:

The Commonwealth is developing a Website and emergency notification system, specifically designed for the private sector, containing information related to preparedness and necessary action in the case of an emergency. There are several existing technologies that provide emergency alert warnings in the Commonwealth including the Emergency Alert System, EMNet, text alerting, and NOAA Weather Radios. The use of the technologies such as these should be expanded along with the addition of new capabilities to enhance the alert warning system. Because citizens receive information from a variety of sources, a “system of systems” approach is needed.

Geographic Scope:

This issue affects all regions in the State, especially localities that do not have the funds to

purchase new equipment. Some components of this initiative could be implemented on a regional basis.

Program Management:

This initiative should be managed by a steering committee of local and State level Representatives (Ready Virginia is already a part of this effort).

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

Interoperability Capability Assessment Baseline: This multi-state effort will identify opportunities for partnering among the Mid-Atlantic States, with the overall goal of avoiding duplicative costs, creating cooperative operations and improving interoperability across the region during disasters.

\$250,000

Statewide Interoperability Communications: The HSGP grant will be used to address the Initiatives in the SCIP. Specifically, the 2007 grant is going towards the implementation of the STR, especially radio cache resources, as well as the other initiatives listed in the 2007 version of the SCIP. Specifically, this funding will allow Virginia to build upon its highly successful investment in radio caches and related equipment by creating smaller caches in central and southwestern Virginia. It will also complete a survey to determine the expansion of WebEOC and the next steps in its use.

\$2,000,000

The Virginia General Assembly allocated \$400,000.00 to EMNet in particular

The 2008 HSGP grant, of approximately \$1,500,000, will assist in the implementation of the 2008 SCIP, specifically operability and interoperable solutions that are outlined in the current and on-going initiatives above.

The PSIC grant, of approximately \$25,000,000, will be used to address the following elements which support various Initiatives within the SCIP –

- Operability
- Connectivity and Sustainability
- Tactical Interoperability Solutions/Gateways
- National Interoperability Channels
- New Portable s and Mobiles (P25 and Narrowband Compliant)
- Tactical Interoperable Solutions/ Strategic Technology Reserve (STR)

Future Resources Required

To complete operability in the four regions identified in the operability initiative, it is estimated that equipment, exercises and training approximately \$40,000,000 is needed.

To complete interoperability solutions, identified in the interoperability initiatives, both within and across the non-UASI regions it is estimated that planning, equipment, training and exercises approximately \$250,000,000 is needed.

To complete the interoperability solutions in Virginia's two UASIs, it is estimated that the equipment, exercises and training approximately \$60,000,000 is needed.

To complete a robust citizen alert system in all localities and universities it is estimated an additional \$40,000,000 is needed.

To complete an integrated communication system between colleges/universities, surrounding localities and State agencies an additional \$50,000,000 is needed for equipment, training and exercises.

Public education and outreach goals between 2007 and 2010 are estimated at \$2,000,000.

A total of \$442,000,000 is needed for this National Priority.

National Priority 6: CBRNE Detection Capability

A. Accomplishments

Planning, Training and Exercises

- In February, 2007 VDEM revised Volume 4 to the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP), the Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Consequence Management Plan. This Plan combines two previous plans, the Oil and Hazardous Materials Response Plan and the Terrorism Consequence Management Plan.
- The Commonwealth has developed and published a Highly Contagious Livestock and Poultry Disease Emergency Response Plan and a Response to Plant Pest Emergency Plan. These plans have been coordinated with stakeholders and are referenced in the COVEOP.
- Since October, 2005, multiple functional exercises have been conducted to evaluate exercise for a livestock or poultry disease outbreak. The Health Department, Food Safety Taskforce, local jurisdictions, and Federal stakeholders have participated.
- Virginia's Hazardous Emergency Materials Response Program, codified in state law at 44-146.34, *et seq.*, is charged with protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the people of Virginia. This Program is an essential public safety entity for natural and human-caused hazardous materials incidents, including acts of terrorism. As part of this Program, VDEM coordinates statewide training programs for HAZMAT Technicians and Specialists to insure each responder achieves and maintains the level of competency necessary to perform his or her duties. Statewide training programs for HAZMAT responders have been updated to incorporate the ICS and NIMS response structures. This training involves state staff, local employees, and, occasionally, personnel from Federal and neighboring State agencies when space permits. There are approximately 13 courses per year-- each course lasts for two weeks and can carry up to 30 students. Training needs to be expanded to increase courses by 4 or 5 classes per year in 2008 - 2010.
- Since 1999, Virginia has used Homeland Security (and other) funds to conduct Hazardous Materials Response team drills and community exercises with hazardous materials scenarios. VDEM and the Hazardous Materials Response Teams are an integral part of most community exercises throughout the Commonwealth.
- Each of Virginia's 35 health districts has an emergency planner and an epidemiologist. The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) has a "green" rating for its strategic stockpile plan and has exercised that plan in a pandemic-flu exercise. Every year each health district conducts an exercise for mass-dispensing vaccines. VDH has also conducted annual statewide Pandemic Influenza exercises for state agencies and Virginia's leadership.

Facilities

- The Commonwealth has completed construction of a bio-security Level 3 suite for trained personnel to contain, safely work with, and provide diagnostic testing on highly pathogenic biological agents. The Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS)

operates a Laboratory Response Network (LRN) facility to provide laboratory analysis of chemical and biological samples and scientific expertise supporting CBRNE detection activities.

CHEMPACK

- The Commonwealth is working to maintain and improve, where appropriate, the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) and CHEMPACK Plan preparedness functions in consideration of Federal, State, and focal partnering efforts. Plans and procedures have been developed to prevent, detect, report, investigate, control, and recover from infectious disease outbreaks caused by natural or terrorist events. In addition, the Commonwealth has approximately 48 CHEMPACKs, all of which were on standby for the Queen of England's recent visit.

Bio-Watch

- Bio-Watch is an early warning system designed to detect biological agents through environmental air sampling. The metropolitan Richmond area is now part of the Baltimore-Washington-Richmond Bio-Watch corridor.
- Virginia participates in the Bio-Watch Program along with other ambient air monitoring systems deployed by the federal government.

Personnel

- The Technological Hazards Division (THD) is responsible for implementation of the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program that is based on a state and local government partnership. This partnership allows for standard training for all hazardous materials responders and for state-sponsored Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. THD has eight Hazardous Materials Officers (HMOs) stationed throughout Virginia to oversee and assist localities in response to hazardous materials incidents. These HMOs are highly trained and equipped responders who are notified of any potentially hazardous incident within their response areas. The HMOs work with 13 Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams to verify threat potential and determine prevention and remediation actions. The HMOs are a vital link between the state, localities, citizenry, and private industry in coordination, training, preparedness, response, and recovery for hazards resulting from natural and human-caused incidents, including terrorism. The THD also provides a training program based on a four-tier curriculum that is aligned with the NFPA 472 standards and OSHA 29CFR1910.120 criteria.
- The eight State HMOs have the ability to provide technical assistance via phone or respond with the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. Twenty-two jurisdictions make up the 13 Teams in the state system. There are also eleven independent local government Hazardous Materials Response Teams within Virginia that are not part of the state-supported system.
- Virginia National Guard is home to the 34th Civil Support Team (CST). The CST has tremendous capabilities to respond to natural and human-caused events, including chemical, biological, and radiological detection and monitoring; communications; and a robust reach-back capability to subject matter experts to support field operations. The CST is an integral part of Virginia's CBRNE capabilities.

- The Virginia State Police (VSP) Counter-Terrorism and Criminal Interdiction (CCI) Teams allow the VSP to operate in contaminated areas to perform both their law enforcement and public protection roles. The CCI Teams are equipped to work in chemical or biologically contaminated areas.
- The Virginia State Police provide the vast majority of the Commonwealth's explosive ordnance capabilities. State Police Bomb Technicians are trained to federal standards and have the capability to operate in the presence of chemical and biological materials.
- The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) supports the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program with regulatory and environmental guidance and maintains the ability to perform highly technical air sampling and plume prediction. VDEQ is an integral part of the hazardous materials program.
- VDEM Hazardous Materials Officers, Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams, Virginia State Police Counter-Terrorism and Criminal Interdiction, the National Guard's Civil Support Teams, and other state agencies provide an integrated team for protection against WMD and hazardous materials incidents.

Regional Accomplishments

The Commonwealth's CBRNE capabilities have a strong regional presence. In addition to the state assets, the 13 Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams are organic to local fire departments throughout Virginia. Most fire departments, whether career and volunteer, are trained to the Hazardous Materials Operations level and are an integral part of the overall response system.

The strong regional capabilities are reflected in several ways. As an example, the following accomplishments have been made by Region II :

- New communications systems are coming on-line in a couple of counties
- In the counties without new communications systems, the future communications needs have been determined
- The relationships in many communities and within the region as a whole, have improved
- Special Operations Teams have been formed, equipped, trained and are operational
- Rockingham County has created a Disaster Response Task Group: many local non-traditional response organizations involved
- Conducting assessments to determine needed plans and resources
- Exercises have successfully integrated the Incident Command System and foster relationships
- There have been new plans for responses developed and review and update of older plans
- Closely working with non-traditional response organizations
- Expanded EOC Operations in the region----New facilities and purchase of a Command Vehicle

In Region VII:

- New CBRNE units have been established, procedures for use of equipment have been improved, and an emergency website has been created.

B. Current Capabilities

CBRNE Detection Capability:

- Virginia's Hazardous Materials Response Program has many assets in place. These include:
 - Hazardous Materials Officers stationed statewide
 - Regional Hazardous Materials Teams positioned throughout the Commonwealth
 - VSP Counter-terrorism and Criminal Interdiction Teams
 - The Virginia National Guard 34th Civil Support Team
- Virginia's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response System has benefited greatly from previous homeland security grant programs. Virginia has obtained additional radiological, biological, and chemical field monitoring equipment to enhance the ability of HMOs to detect the presence of CBRNE materials, allowing for improved responder safety and incident size-up. The Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams are equipped for the full range of potential hazardous materials incidents. The Teams are continuing to improve their own CBRNE detection and monitoring capabilities.
- VDEM has worked closely with the Department of Energy (DOE) and Oak Ridge National Laboratory to develop a program to locate and identify radiological material, confirm the presence of radiation, and determine the level of danger.
- The Virginia State Police conduct commercial vehicle inspections routinely, and the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) checks materials moving through critical highway infrastructure.
- The Virginia Port Authority is an independent agency that conducts maritime hazardous materials screening.
- The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) have obtained a stock of personal protective equipment (PPE) for evaluators of food products, and as a result can now take the necessary steps to test the food supply if needed.
- The Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services (DCLS) assists in evidence testing, identifying unknown chemicals, and testing of suspicious white powder. They were one of the first four State laboratories selected and funded by the federal government to test specimens from people for evidence of exposure to chemical weapons. DCLS is Virginia's confirmatory laboratory for the national Laboratory Response Network and is the PulseNet Regional Laboratory for the Central Atlantic States. DCLS is a member of the Food Emergency Response Network and the Radiation Emergency Analytical Laboratory Network and provides emergency analytical support for Virginia, neighboring States, and Federal agencies in response to public health and environmental threats.
- First responders and CI/KR personnel have received awareness level training for each of the CBRNE agents.
- Appropriate personnel have been identified for CBRNE detection training (e.g., law enforcement, transit police and security, fire department, hazardous materials (HazMat), public health, private sector security, and critical infrastructure personnel).
- Training for detection operators, laboratory staff, and critical infrastructure personnel has been conducted.
- A process for analyzing exercise results and incorporating lessons learned is in place.

Explosive Device Response Operations Capability:

- There are nine EOD Teams in Virginia which do not belong to the Virginia State Police.
- Effective plans for Explosive Device Response Operations are in place.
- Plans address standardized education to certify bomb technicians (e.g. FBI Hazardous Devices School, National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board).
- Plans address onsite treatment of devices (e.g. deactivation, disruption, disabling, containerizing for transport).
- Plans address communications requirements (e.g. establish onsite command, control, communications and intelligence operations).
- Bomb Squads generally are equipped and trained at only Type II level.
- Effective tactics, techniques, procedures, and training are standardized and shared within the bomb squad community.
- Effective practices and training are reinforced as needed during practical exercises that accurately replicate threats and operating conditions.
- Diagnostics and render-safe procedures are conducted as appropriate for threat and device type by function.
- Devices and/or components can be transported by only one-third of our bomb squads to a safe and secure site for processing and/or disposal within time period determined by bomb technicians on the scene, in accordance with public safety considerations.
- No capability exists to safely disrupt vehicle borne improvised explosive devices.

WMD/Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination Capability:

- Hazardous materials teams are capable of assisting the VSP in inspections.
- The Virginia Port Authority (VPA) can screen cargo for hazardous materials.
- WMD/Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination plans are based on a formal assessment of risks and vulnerabilities.
- Risk analysis is completed for potential hazmat vulnerabilities, including fixed facilities and transportation-related emergencies.
- Redundant hazardous materials response teams and equipment are available (or accessible through mutual aid agreements) to provide resiliency in the event of a large-scale incident.
- Hazardous materials plans address substance identification equipment (e.g. bases, vapors, liquids, solids, biological agents, suspicious powder).
- Hazardous materials plans address personnel needs (e.g. work/rest cycles, medical, psychological, financial assistance, etc).
- Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams have current protocol to coordinate with law enforcement for evidence collection and crime scene control.
- Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams have current protocol to coordinate with emergency medical services (EMS) on patient care decontamination (identification of substance, administration of antidotes, etc.).

C. Three-Year Targets

CBRNE Detection Capability:

Target Description	Projected	Status
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	Completion Year	
The Commonwealth will ensure all Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams obtain the response equipment identified in the Contract Team Minimum Equipment List. Priority will be given to upgrade and replenishment of PPE; to upgrade detection and monitoring capabilities; and to ensure reliable transport of Team personnel and equipment.	2010	Open
The Commonwealth will partner with a local government for the development of a statewide Hazardous Materials Training Center for continuing hazardous materials and terrorism training.	2009	Open
The Commonwealth will provide funding for continued development of the Regional Heavy and Technical Rescue Teams throughout Virginia.	2010	Open

Explosive Device Response Operations Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Provide equipment and training to enhance regional response capability as well as CBRNE transport and disposal and VBIED disruption and handling.	2010	Open

WMD/Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Provide equipment and training to ensure that first responders have the necessary tools for mass decontamination.	2010	Open

D. Initiatives

CBRNE Detection Capability:

Enhance CBRNE Detection and Identification Capabilities to Increase Community Safety (CBRNE Targets 1,2,3).

Description:

First responder CBRNE/Hazardous Materials equipment will be obtained to purchase, replace, enhance and/or upgrade equipment to include maintenance and training on new and existing equipment purchased under this grant program. The Hazardous Materials Officers (HMOs) would ensure the equipment is operational.

The purpose of this Initiative is to detect and identify CBRNE compounds through mobile detection instrumentation. The mobile CBRNE instrumentation will be deployed with Hazardous Materials Response Teams. Each Team may be required to respond to any Region of the Commonwealth in support of CBRNE operations and each is tasked to do so at the direction of VDEM. The equipment obtained through this initiative will be used to replace existing detection and monitoring equipment and personal protective equipment, upgrade this equipment, and to purchase new technology that will enhance Virginia's hazardous materials response capabilities.

In addition to the above equipment purchase for regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams, the following actions may be taken in support of this Initiative:

- The Commonwealth is working to continuously improve upon surveillance and information systems to facilitate early detection and mitigation of disease. For example, the Office of Epidemiology is partnered with the Johns Hopkins Essence Syndrome Surveillance System and the Bio-Watch System (an effort funded primarily from CDC grants).
- In addition to the development of these surveillance programs, the Commonwealth provides continuous training on reporting systems to enhance the data collection process and improve the quality of data reports.
- A web-based disease reporting system has been implemented, but more resources are needed to sustain the effort.
- There is a DHS Domestic Nuclear Detection Office (DNDO) Pilot Project located in Frederick County that involves a Portal for interdicting radiological cargo. VDOT has the lead, assisted by the Virginia State Police. The concept of operations for this fixed portal involves tasking local and state teams to confirm or refute the presence of illicit radiological materials once detected. This Initiative supports equipping and training of first responders to assist in this confirmation/refutation process.
- Southeast Transportation Corridor Project – Interstate highway transportation campaign along I-81 as part of a Department of Energy (DOE) initiative. Training and equipment is being tested along the I-81 corridor, mostly at local hospitals. Training is ongoing for the next several years.
- The following types of instrumentation are recommended as part of this Initiative:
 - Biological Detection System
 - Air Trailers
 - Cascade systems

- SAAC Gamma Ray Detectors
 - FTIR Accessories
 - FTIR Maintenance
 - Air Sampling Canisters
 - PPE
 - Radios
 - Lab Supplies
 - Computer Upgrade
- The Terrorism Training Program will continue to conduct educational courses for public safety and other responder disciplines in the Commonwealth using in-house or contracted instructional personnel. In addition non-employee / non-funded “Instructors” for the Public Safety Response to Terrorism – Awareness course are expected to provide an additional courses that are supported with program materials (textbooks, A/Vs and other handouts).

Geographic Scope:

This Initiative will allow increased detection and identification of CBRNE compounds throughout the Commonwealth. The regional nature and statewide follow-on support already incorporated into the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program will allow assistance to all localities, including areas of high population density such as the National Capital Region, the Hampton Roads area (to include Norfolk, Newport News, etc.) and Richmond Metropolitan area. Because a large amount of the equipment is mobile, it will also be able to be used in small and rural communities if needed. Due to the high cost and significant amount of training required to operate the advanced level CBRNE equipment, it will be housed with identified Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams.

Program Management:

Management of this Initiative will be through the VDEM Technological Hazards Division. VDEM will be responsible for the allocation of funds, oversight of the specifications and quantity of equipment purchased, and will monitor the maintenance and operability of the equipment. The equipment will become the property of the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams under contract to VDEM and of eleven other non-contract Hazardous Materials Response Teams throughout Virginia.

Enhance CBRNE Detection and Identification Capabilities to Increase Community Safety through the use of seven Heavy Technical Rescue Teams (HTR) in each of the seven divisions. (CBRNE Targets 1,2,3)

Description:

First responder CBRNE/Heavy and Technical Rescue equipment will be obtained to purchase, replace, enhance and or upgrade equipment to include maintenance and training on new and existing equipment purchased under the grant program. The Virginia Department of Fire Programs will ensure all equipment is operational.

The purpose of this initiative is to detect and identify CBRNE related equipment to enhance the Urban Search and Rescue of facilities that are affected by terrorist activities and natural disasters. Each team will be required to respond to rescue victims of damaged or collapsed structures. They will utilize monitoring and detection equipment to locate victims and to determine where to utilize structural collapse equipment for rescue. The equipment obtained through this initiative will be used to replace existing equipment and personal protective equipment, upgrade this equipment and to purchase new equipment.

In addition to the above equipment purchase for the seven HTR Teams the following actions maybe taken in support of this initiative:

- The HTR Teams are continuously working to improve response capabilities through training and exercises. Team members are sent to the annual FEMA Structural Collapse Technician Course, attend state sponsored technical rescue courses and in-service courses and drills.
- The following types of equipment are recommended as part of the initiative:

PPE
Computer upgrade
Radios
Breaching and Breaching equipment
Saws (circular, rotary, chain, electric, gas)
Drills (bits)
Hammers (pneumatic, hydraulic)
Monitoring equipment
Thermal Imaging Cameras
Gas monitors (4 gas)
Search Cams
Hand tools
Medical supplies

Geographic Scope:

This initiative will allow increased rescue capability to the entire Commonwealth. The regional nature and statewide follow-on support already incorporated will allow assistance to all localities.

Program Management:

Management of this initiative will be through the Virginia Department of Fire Programs. VDFP will be responsible for the allocation of funds, oversight of the specifications and quantity of equipment purchased and will monitor the maintenance and operability of the equipment. The equipment will become property of the regional Heavy Technical Rescue Teams.

This investment allows localities to ensure locally trained teams have specific types of equipment to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents. We estimate that this can be accomplished with approximately \$700K for the first year.

Explosive Device Response Operations Capability:

Develop an enhanced and uniform response to explosive devices. (Explosive Device Target 1)

Description:

This initiative focuses on the development and validation of standard training and response procedures for use by State agencies, local jurisdictions, colleges and universities. This effort will employ appropriate NIMS components, provide compatibility with State and NRP protocols and ensure an appropriate level of equipment to safely mitigate the explosive hazard. The Commonwealth's accredited bomb squads will be prepared to respond and handle any circumstances in which explosive devices may contain chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear materials.

Geographic Scope:

This is a statewide initiative applicable to all state and local agencies that currently have certified bomb technicians. The Virginia State Police Bomb Squad will provide assistance to local law-enforcement agencies that have accredited bomb squads and will provide complete service to law-enforcement agencies that do not have an accredited bomb squad. This initiative will promote regionalism among bomb technicians, training, sharing of information, and the identification and utilization of specialized equipment.

Program Management:

During the implementation phase, VSP's Bomb and Arson Special Agent in Charge would serve as the link between the Commonwealth, the stakeholders group, and any vendors for advice, assistance, and coordination of training. The Commonwealth proposes that state and local bomb technicians help identify appropriate procedures and develop a standard training program for bomb technicians. State and local bomb technicians will also provide explosive device awareness training to citizen groups and other law-enforcement agencies. The Commonwealth will provide education/training to first responders to reduce the risk from hazards associated with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). We note that the 2008 Homeland Security Grant Guidance requires a significant proportion of the 2008 grant be directed towards IEDs.

Grant funds will be focused and directed toward enhancing existing equipment and developing appropriate inter-jurisdictional coordination. These funds will help address equipment deficiencies that impact the safety of the emergency responders, law-enforcement responders, bomb technicians and the general public. Regionally-based equipment could be utilized and drawn from for use in emergency operations, special/high risk events, bombings or terrorist threats. Implementation of this initiative will require in part, the following considerations:

- Additional bomb suits (of various sizes) are needed in case there is contamination of the first suit.
- Damaged P.A.N. Disrupters need replacement.

- Robots require regular upgrades in technology, and replacement parts are necessary in cases where there is contamination.

WMD/Hazardous Materials Response and Decontamination Capability:

Improve HAZMAT/WMD Identification and Decontamination Capabilities. (WMD Targets)

Description:

The Commonwealth of Virginia has had hazardous materials emergency response capabilities since the early 70s. In 1987 the General Assembly established the Virginia Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program. This program charged VDEM with the responsibility of coordinating the development of a hazardous materials training program and to administer the implementation of the Virginia Hazardous Materials Response Program. Since that time, the Commonwealth of Virginia has taken a statewide approach, regionalized into eight response areas. All these areas have some potential for a WMD incident or major disaster. Local government personnel are generally trained to the awareness level with approximately 50% of fire fighters trained to the operations level of hazardous materials and WMD. Actions to achieve the above initiative include:

- Providing additional equipment and training for Virginia's hazardous materials response system will augment an existing and robust capability.
- Virginia will use Homeland Security funding, to extend allowable costs under the grant guidance, to support a partnership between VDEM and a local government for the development of a state Hazardous Materials Training Center.
- Current certification standards will be maintained, and training, equipment, and exercise development will be improved.
- Annual enhancement of regional, multi-agency (local, State, and federal) exercises to include all disciplines with major emphasis placed on victim(s) rescue and mass decontamination.
- Purchase, maintain, and receive appropriate training on multi-detection equipment for every responder in the Commonwealth included in NFPA 472, to include PPE as well.
- Increased training for WMD-sampling for environmental, evidence collection, agriculture and laboratory field-testing; purchase and maintain advanced air-borne and WMD sampling equipment and training to interrupt the date; purchase and maintain advance collection kits.

Geographic Scope:

Through the Virginia Hazardous Materials Emergency Response System, this initiative is statewide.

Program Management:

Virginia's Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program is governed by the Hazardous Materials and Terrorism Consequence Management Plan. This Plan provides a description of all Program assets (State, local, and private sector) and their interrelationships. The Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program has been in place since 1987 and falls under the purview of VDEM. The Virginia State Police control the CCI units, and the National Guard has control of the CST. The close working relationships between these State agencies will ensure and appropriate coordination within their individual governance structures.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

State Support to Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program

This Program receives approximately \$450,000 from the General Assembly each year to support the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. Since 1999 the Program has received significant support for equipment, training, and exercising. Virginia has allocated approximately \$2 million of the 2007 grant for the purpose of equipping, training, and exercising both the Contract and Non-contract Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. A portion of this funding has also been allocated to support Virginia's Regional Heavy and Technical Rescue Teams.

Future Resources Required

State Support to Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program

We estimate that it will take approximately \$1.5 million beyond the homeland security grant allocations through 2007 to fully equip and train the Regional Hazardous Materials Response Teams. This can be accomplished through the use of local share funds. There are still outstanding needs for other state agencies having support roles to the Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Program. These costs may require upwards of \$1 million over the next three years. This can be accomplished through the use of state share funds.

The Commonwealth estimates that construction and support of a state Hazardous Materials Training Center in partnership with a local government will require several million dollars (actual cost is uncertain at this time and contingent upon the scope of the partnership agreement—this agreement is currently being developed).

Support for the protection of Virginia's livestock, crops, and food supply may require an investment of several million dollars over the next three years. VDACS is currently developing accurate cost estimates for this activity.

Bomb Squad Robots

The National Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board has mandated bomb squad robots for all bomb squad teams in order to retain accreditation, beginning in 2009. The cities of Alexandria and Richmond, Henrico County and the Virginia State Police will receive this investment for the equipment and training required for robotic bomb

disposal. We estimate that this will cost approximately \$676,000. This initiative can be accomplished with a mix of state share and local share funding or through the MOU process using local share funds.

Enhance Response Capabilities to Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and Explosive Incidents

This investment allows localities to ensure locally trained teams and first responders have specific types of equipment to respond to chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive incidents. We estimate that this can be accomplished with approximately \$30 million through 2010. Through time this requirement will be a recurring cost. This can be accomplished using both state and local share funds.

National Priority 7: Strengthen Medical Surge and Mass Prophylaxis Capabilities

A. Accomplishments

The following are medical surge and mass prophylaxis accomplishments made by the Commonwealth with respect to databases and reporting systems, websites, plans and exercises, medical supplies and distribution, and hospitals and medical care.

Databases and Reporting Systems

- During 2008, Virginia received a 10 (out of 10) for preparedness to respond to public health emergencies based on the Trust for America's Health measurements. Virginia was one of seven States to receive this rating.
- Virginia is in compliance with established reporting requirements associated with the 29 identified conditions to include CDC Category A agents, outbreaks, and unusual occurrences of diseases of public concern. VDH also maintains an up-to-date registry of select agents possessed by laboratories in the State and is notified of any changes in inventory.
- The Commonwealth has established the Emergency System Advanced Registration of Volunteer Healthcare Professionals (volunteers were solicited through the medical license renewal process), which is a database of healthcare professionals to contact during emergencies.
- The Virginia Department of Health's mass prophylaxis program has been described as a "model" program by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and designated as a "Best Practice" program by DHS. The program has received a "green rating" (fully capable) for the past four years (2003-2006) and received a 97% prepared rating this year for the management and distribution of the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) program. It should be noted that all VDH-sponsored exercises comply with the requirements of the Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program.
- The CDC conducted a 2007 transportation time study to evaluate the adequacy of our planning efforts to receive and re-distribute Strategic National Stockpile assets from our Receive, State and Store (RSS) facility to outlying Points of Dispensing. This study affirmed the adequacy of our provisions to accomplish this goal.
- The Virginia Department of Health collaborated with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management and Department of Social Services to develop a "crosswalk document" listing the Commonwealth's regulatory requirements and emergency planning best practices for a broad range of institutions including long-term care facilities, assisted living facilities and group homes. This document is intended to help those facilities ensure their plans adequately address all-hazards response, evacuation, and sheltering provisions.
- The Virginia Department of Health developed a State Managed Shelter Health and Special Medical Services Plan to support the activation of State managed shelters in the

event they are needed to support a large scale evacuation. Additionally, VDH provided the Virginia Department of Emergency Management with recommended emergency supply lists such that pre-scripted mission assignments can be created should these assets be needed to support a state-managed shelter activation.

- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention completed its 2008 annual inspection of all Chempack host facilities in the Commonwealth with no significant findings or deficiencies. No outstanding issues or follow-up actions exist.
- District Mass Prophylaxis Plans have incorporated NIMS/ICS principles as the overarching organizational emergency response structure. Functional leads (i.e., individuals expected to assume (Health) Incident Command and Section Chief positions) have been directed to take ICS and NRP courses as directed by Executive Order. Completion of the courses is tracked by the EP&R Education and Training staff using the VATRAIN system. District Mass Prophylaxis Plans include public information and education strategies for mass prophylaxis events (such as news release templates, public service announcements, etc.) which have been exercised routinely and demonstrated in response to actual events.
- District Mass Prophylaxis Plans include provisions to conduct planning and assessments with multiple response partners including local law enforcement, EMS, public works and transportation, etc. Specifically, Districts have been provided guidance directing security assessments in cooperation with local law enforcement agencies for PODs expected to be operated within those Districts. Because security assessments are ongoing and potential Points of Dispensing are continually being identified and added to our database, not all sites have been assessed. However, District Planners are expected to coordinate this activity to ensure they are conducted.

Websites

- Multiple websites have been created to give the public important medical information. These may be accessed through VDH's home page at www.vdh.virginia.gov.

Plans and Exercises

- Statewide mass vaccination plans have been developed at the State and district levels, and legal reporting requirements have been enacted.
- The Commonwealth is divided into 35 Health Districts. All Districts, conducted mass dispensing exercises in 2007, nineteen (19) involved the actual administration of annual influenza vaccine to over 12,000 citizens. In total, sponsored over forty (40) State, regional, and local health-centric exercises in 2007. The department also participated in numerous exercises conducted by other agencies in which the department's engagement was deemed appropriate.
- The VDH has hosted numerous State and District large-scale, cross border exercises to evaluate our dispensing capability – other States and regions involved included the National Capitol Region (NCR: D.C. & Maryland), West Virginia, North Carolina, Kentucky and Tennessee.
- Working with public and private hospitals throughout the State, VDH has developed a surge plan to insure adequate beds and facilities for mass patient care. VDH has also worked with the Strategic National Stockpile program to enhance its capability to receive, store, stage, repackage, and distribute medical and health supplies. Working

with highly-populated jurisdictions, VDH has assisted with the development of plans for mass dispersion of antidotes or antibiotics as well as the development of surveillance and other early-warning strategies.

Medical Supplies and Distribution

- Virginia has forward-deployed antibiotics for first responders statewide and they (as listed in the Strategic National Stockpile Plan) have “head of the line” SNS privileges.
- Beginning in 2005, VDH distributed antibiotic doses to all 35 Health districts to be available for first responders in times of emergency. There are also strategically located antibiotic caches in three locations through the Metropolitan Medical Response System (MMRS) – Arlington, Richmond, and Hampton Roads. Additionally, MMRS Clones are established in Loudoun, Fairfax and Prince William Counties and Alexandria City using UASI funds, expanding non-SNS Caches in Northern Virginia (NCR)
- The VDH currently has 3 RSS Sites (Receive, Stage, and Store) designated within the Commonwealth – 2 primary sites and 1 alternate site.
- The VDH has identified 353 Points of Dispensing for on scene dispensing of the appropriate antidotes. These sites, when mobilized, will be staffed by Public Health, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units, of which there are 26 organizations within the State, and other volunteer partners.
- To prepare the State against a possible pandemic, the VDH has purchased approximately 770,000 courses of antiviral drugs for mass treatment as a front line defense. This dispensing program has been coordinated with hospitals, pharmacies, and Medicare and Tricare networks. The SNS program is the backup for this pandemic preparedness program.
- One of the keys to the success of the distribution of the SNS is the transportation arrangement. The VDH has an SNS contract with a national commercial carrier with another means as a backup. This has allowed for safe and secure rapid transport from an SNS RSS site to a Point of Dispensing anywhere in the State within approximately five (5) hours.

Hospitals and Medical Care

- The benchmark for the number of surge beds available above normal staffed beds is 500 beds per million people. For the most recent population data, the metric benchmark is 3,730. The Commonwealth has exceeded this benchmark with a current surge capacity over normal staffed bed capacity of 6,181.
- The Commonwealth is divided into six (6) hospital regions. There are 94 acute care hospitals (with emergency rooms) that are the first line of defense for a medical surge requirement. Assisting the acute care hospitals are the non-acute care hospitals and clinics, nursing homes, and mental health hospitals.
- All hospitals have stockpiles of PPE for protection of staff against biological and chemical hazards, and additional caches of PPE are available within the six regions. All hospitals have also been equipped and trained to decontaminate patients.
- The hospitals have a version of WebEOC for on line communication with the Region Hospital Coordination Center (RHCC) and then to the VDH Emergency Coordination Center (ECC) which communicates with the VEOC. The hospitals all have video teleconferencing capability with the ECCs and satellite telephones (SatPhones).

- All the hospital laboratories have partnered with the Virginia State Lab into a Laboratory Response Network (LRN) to upgrade their capability to deal with specimen – examining, transferring, and coordinating results more efficiently.
- Virginia currently has 26 Medical Reserve Corps, including one affiliated with the University of Virginia..
- Six healthcare emergency planning regions have been established to allow for the development of regional plans based on the specific needs of these areas. Regional Healthcare Emergency Planning Committees have been established to coordinate the development of these plans. The primary responsibility of these committees is to plan for the provision of critical medical care needs and coordinate with the local healthcare coalition partners to provide an effective Medical Surge Capacity and Capability (MSCC). A Regional Healthcare Coordinating Center (RHCC) has been established in each of the six planning regions to facilitate emergency response, communication and resource allocation within and among the six hospital regions. Within Virginia, the RHCCs are Level 1 Trauma Centers.
- Use of mobile medical assets is considered a valuable option for providing medical stabilization and treatment outside of hospitals. The same model of Stabilization and Treatment in Place (S.T.I.P) units is now in place in four of the six hospital regions.
- The Virginia Department of Health provides State oversight to the MMRS program (comprised of six MMRS jurisdictions).

B. Current Capabilities

Mass Prophylaxis Capability:

- Virginia is able to dispense medications using up to 353 pre-identified Points of Dispensing sites and has also instituted a quick dispensing program using the Cities Readiness Initiative goal of 48-hour prophylaxis for all Health Districts. This process expands dispensing modalities to include non-traditional dispensing methods such as school buses, newspaper carrier resources, and other options.
- Virginia has purchased and forward-deployed a stockpile of antibiotics for first responder availability throughout the State's 35 Health Districts.
- Based on exercise observations and evaluations (from a random survey of Health District Planners), from the time the decision is made to open a Point of Dispensing, to the time it is ready for operation, ranges from about four (4) to twenty-four (24) hours. On a weekday under ideal conditions, Districts indicated the ability to activate one (1) Point of Dispensing in about 4 hours. Under less than ideal conditions, e.g., after normal business hours, twelve (12) hours is realistic. If multiple Points of Dispensing must be opened concurrently, the time will increase to as much as twenty-four (24) hours. The rate-limiting factor is staffing.
- It is valid to assume the Point of Dispensing is ready for operation when the prophylaxis arrives since it would take a minimum of 12 – 24 hours to initially receive and distribute medicines through the stockpile program down to the District level. Therefore, dispensing may reasonably begin within thirty (30) minutes to one (1) hour for pills, and from one (1) to two (2) hours for vaccine (following their receipt, inventory and distribution within the Dispensing Site to the administrators).
- Virginia has purchased a portion of its share of the federally subsidized antivirals to use during an influenza pandemic.

Health and Medical Surge Capability:

- Virginia employs standard triage and treatment protocols. Virginia Code (§ 32.1-111.3.) requires a “uniform set of criteria for pre-hospital and inter-hospital triage and transport of trauma patients consistent with the trauma protocols of the American College of Surgeons’ Committee on Trauma”. These criteria are promulgated in the Virginia Office of EMS Pre-Hospital and Inter-hospital State Trauma Triage Plan. Virginia EMS providers utilize a protocol that has been adopted nationally known by its acronym S.T.A.R.T- Simple Triage and Rapid Treatment. This process is especially applicable in mass casualty incidents where rapid initial assessment is necessary.
- Protocols include traditional and non-traditional modes of patient transport. Under normal conditions standard protocols are followed for transport of the patient to the most appropriate treatment facility for the nature and severity of the illness or injury. The State Trauma Triage Plan also addresses transport criteria linked to the nature and extent of the patient’s condition and location of first response. Under Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) conditions, MCI plans consider non-traditional modes of patient transport.
- There is a standardized patient tracking system for both initial patients and all patient transfers. The State Trauma Triage Plan incorporates the use of a standard triage tag for all patients. These tags are color coded according to triage protocol and are bar coded for patient tracking from the scene to the treatment facility. This same method can be used for inter-hospital transfers. A standardized, internet-based patient tracking and reporting system that is also compliant with Federal law relative to patient confidentiality has been developed and will be tested for system reliability and effectiveness during the remainder of this year.
- There are detailed procedures for evacuation of communities and major medical treatment facilities and movement of patients out of an area. Each hospital has a detailed evacuation plan for evacuation both “vertical” (within the facility-for moving patients from an affected area to a safe area) and “horizontal” (out of the facility to a safe treatment facility). This is a regulatory requirement of the licensing authority (Virginia Department of Health) and a standard of care established by the Joint Commission for the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO). Furthermore, the JCAHO standards require that the facility (hospital or nursing home) establish and exercise the evacuation plan with the local community.
- General evacuation of communities is not a health and medical target capability and mass movement of large numbers of patients out of an area will require transportation resources coordinated by local and State emergency operation centers. A collaborative planning effort to establish a protocol for medical evacuation and forward movement of patients out of an affected area is now being conducted on a regional basis. Federal, State and local emergency management representatives with input from private sector medical treatment facilities are identifying gaps in resources required for the safe evacuation of patients from an entire region. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is coordinating the project which will also capture the many actions related to a medical evacuation operation including sheltering in place and other similar tasks. The ultimate goal is to accurately model this complex undertaking which enables better integration and coordination between stakeholders.

- There are established criteria for patient decontamination that fully consider the safety of EMS personnel and hospital-based first responders. Virginia acute care hospitals participate in a federally funded hospital disaster preparedness program that includes a benchmark for establishing or upgrading hospital based and/or portable decontamination stations for the safe and rapid decontamination of both ambulatory and non-ambulatory patients. The benchmark metric is the number of ambulatory and non-ambulatory adult and pediatric patients that can be decontaminated in a three hour period of time. Included in this benchmark is the requirement to provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) to personnel operating the decontamination units. Virginia hospitals have met this benchmark for both decontamination and protection of EMS/hospital personnel.
- There are regional plans for special needs populations and special needs shelters. Virginia hospital regions have acquired mobile medical facilities and/or deployable equipment and supplies for operation of alternate care facilities. The primary purpose of these assets is to provide medical surge capacity outside of acute care medical facilities. These assets could be used to support special needs shelters or the mobile medical units could be established to provide support to a locality that is sheltering the medically fragile.
- Medical volunteers can be registered, assigned to duty, and provided logistical support. Twenty-six (26) Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) units across the Commonwealth are actively recruiting, registering, and training medical volunteers, including licensed medical professionals. An on-line system has been established for registration and communication with volunteers. MRC units arrange for the logistical support of their registered volunteers. If medical volunteers were to be deployed for inter-state mutual aid, the logistical support will be provided via the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC). A total of 9,243 volunteers are now registered with the 26 MRC units, including 468 physicians, 167 nurse practitioners, 2,614 nurses, 320 pharmacists, 394 mental health counselors, and 263 emergency medical technicians and paramedics.
- The region can assess in almost real time the capability to increase surge capacity for the following: hospital beds, non-hospital surge beds, personnel, medical supplies, equipment, basic supplies (food, water, power, and utilities). The benchmark for medical surge capacity is assessed at both three hour post-event notification and 24 hour post-event notification. The categories indicated above are assessed at the individual facility level, within a region, and the total capacity within the Commonwealth. The capability to increase surge capacity for the negative-pressure isolation of patients with airborne communicable disease is also assessed.
- Almost “real-time” bed capacity can be assessed. A web-based incident management tool is operational whereby hospitals can report bed capacity and other clinical status elements as requested. The data can be monitored at the Regional Healthcare Coordinating Center (RHCC) and the VDH Emergency Coordination Center (ECC).
- There are provisions for identification, care and disposition of fatalities at a facility based level. The web-based data collection tool referenced above also provides a mechanism for reporting facility morgue capacity. Individual facilities have limited provisions for fatality management depending on the size and complexity of the facility. Mass fatality management response is addressed in Guidelines for Reporting and Managing Mass Fatality Events with the Virginia Medical Examiner System, published by VDH

(OCME). Hospital facility and local community plans for mass fatality management support the statewide fatality management plan.

- There are plans, equipment and training in appropriate PPE for all levels of health care and public health providers. PPE is available for public health providers through the VDH public health district offices. PPE is available at the individual facility level for all acute care hospitals and in regional caches to augment increased demand at a particular facility or to support a medical surge response outside of a hospital facility (community surge). Distribution of PPE is funded through federal grants that include deployment planning and training in benchmark requirements.
- There are established plans and procedures for patient care and facility security. Each acute care hospital addresses facility security as part of its emergency operations plan. Plans and procedures vary by facility but usually include an internal alerting protocol using a system of codes for different types of security related events and a system whether automatic, remotely operated, or manual for locking down the facility. Most hospitals have a memorandum of understanding in place for local law enforcement response as needed.
- There is a redundant communications system that ensures connectivity between public health, health care facilities and EMS and full interoperability with the other First Response Agencies. Public Health (VDH), acute care hospitals and EMS agencies have a redundant communications system in place for reporting and incident management. A primary web-based system is backed up by radio (VHF and HAM). Public Health and the healthcare provider community are participating in the Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant sponsored by DHS. This project will upgrade the reliability and interoperability of communication links between hospitals and their respective local public safety and emergency management partners and ensure that RHCCs have a reliable, redundant means of communicating with the VDH ECC.
- Medical response planning is fully integrated and congruent with the State and jurisdictional emergency operations plans. The Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP) contains the medical response planning within the ESF-8 annex to the plan. During an emergency response event VDH will staff the ESF-8 desk at the Virginia EOC (VEOC) and maintains connectivity with the VEOC from the VDH ECC through access to the VEOC's web-based incident management system.
- In critical infrastructure planning the region, hospitals and other critical surge facilities (e.g., alternate care facilities) are a high priority in the emergency restoration of utilities. Hospitals are given priority in emergency restoration of power. Some alternate care facilities are located on a hospital campus, but for most mobile medical facilities and other alternate care facilities power must be provided by portable generator units which are available in regional caches.
- Planning includes the scenario that one or more surge facilities become unavailable. Medical surge planning for hospitals is focused on five different scenarios: Pandemic Influenza, an explosion event, a hazmat or chemical toxin event, a weather related event and a radiation exposure event. In each of these scenarios it is assumed that at least one surge facility will become unavailable due to infrastructure damage, contamination, or over-capacity in beds or other medical resources. Planning includes mutual aid agreements among hospitals to provide for the receiving of patients evacuated from an affected facility.

- There are approximately **14,150** staffed acute care beds in the State. Surge capacity in hospitals is measured at two levels. Level One capacity includes those beds immediately available or available within 3 hours post-event. Level One capacity is assessed by taking the staffed bed total, subtracting the average daily patient census and adding an approximate number of occupied beds that could be made available by discharging patients earlier than would normally occur and canceling all elective admissions. The Level One surge capacity is **3,996**.
- Level Two Surge capacity is defined at the number of beds above the staffed bed total that could be available for the stabilization and treatment of patients within 24 hours post event. This total would include all licensed beds not normally staffed, use of all ancillary patient care areas such as outpatient clinics, outpatient surgery centers, and non-treatment areas for which portable cots and equipment have been provided. The Level Two surge capacity is **6,181**. It should be noted that because of the reduced medical staff to patient ratio and the allocation of scarce medical resources among a sudden large influx of patients the standard of care will be altered from the normal medical standard to a condition where priority has shifted from providing optimal care for a particular patient to maximizing the chances of survival for the greatest number of victims possible.
- In addition to hospital surge capacity, capacity for the stabilization and treatment of patients outside the acute care hospital setting in mobile medical facilities (Stabilization and Treatment in Place- S.T.I.P.), and alternate care centers is currently **829**. The standard of care in these alternate care facilities will be affected as much if not more than within an acute care facility under Level 2 surge conditions. The total surge capacity above the normal staffed bed level is **7,010**.
- Healthcare providers have two general types of PPE available to them for protection in an all-hazards threat environment. Biological PPE : N-95 respirators stockpiled with the appropriate (gloves and gowns) and Chemical PPE: Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR) equipped with broad based chemical filters available with the appropriate amount of splash protection (chemical) ensemble (coveralls, gloves, boots) established by hospital procedures to support decontamination operations.
- The total number of bio-hazard PPE (N-95 masks) available to hospital personnel in facility inventory as well as in regional caches is **182,368**. Allowing for disposal of an individual mask with every 12 hour shift change, approximately **47,000** healthcare workers can be protected with N-95 masks now on-hand for a period of 3 days.
- There are chemical PPE Powered Air Purifying Respirators (PAPR) for **5,212** healthcare providers.

Note: In addition to the surge capacity categories requested in the survey document, Virginia's hospital preparedness program has enhanced capacity in two other categories to benchmarks established by the Federal government (HHS). These two categories are:

- Negative-pressure isolation of patients with airborne communicable disease
The capacity for negative isolation within 24 hours post event is: **2,281**
This total includes portable units and systems that allow for isolation of an entire corridor or other sub-section of patient beds within a facility.
- Number of antibiotic courses available for hospital for staff and families: **279,945**. This supply provides protection for the **93,315** hospital personnel and their families, assuming the average family size is 3.0 per hospital employee.

C. Three-Year Targets

Mass Prophylaxis Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
For the pandemic preparedness program, the VDH will plan and conduct a major exercise in 2008 -2010, that will evaluate the capability to mass vaccinate the public against a pandemic. The exercise will also test the capability to distribute to treatment facilities (hospitals and institutions with administration capability) the 770,000 doses of antiviral vaccine that have been previously purchased and stored within the State.	2010	Open
The Commonwealth will be fully prepared to execute the Federal Response Program "Cities Ready Initiative" which requires the capability to dispense drugs to 100% of the CRI area population within 48 hours of the decision to do so. The VDH goal is to be able to do this anywhere within the State.	2010	Open
Another major exercise is planned for August 2008 that will test the capability for round the clock (24/7) operation of the State's primary SNS Receipt, Stage and Store warehouse.	2008	Open
Conduct selected Points of Dispensing exercises in multiple Health Districts and evaluate the performance metric for timed dispensing – a goal of 2 minutes per person or patient.	2008	Open

Medical Surge Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
The Commonwealth's healthcare system will be able to rapidly expand its medical mass casualty surge capacity in response to a natural disaster or terrorism event. The Commonwealth currently has extensive medical surge capability, but continues to expand and improve in this target area to meet the potential threat of a pandemic influenza outbreak or other catastrophic public health emergency.	2008	Achieved, but ongoing to enhance current capacity

The Commonwealth recognizes Emergency Medical Services (EMS) as a vital community service and will seek to aid local EMS through recruitment and retention of service providers, provision of adequate funding, and efforts to improve the overall quality of emergency medical care.	2010	Open
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D. Initiatives

Maximize the efficiency of prophylactic protection and/or immunizations. (Targets 1,2,3,4)

Description:

The Commonwealth is working to maximize the efficiency of prophylactic protection and/or immunizations of first responders by evaluating and implementing, as appropriate, methods for stockpiling caches of medications. In particular, Virginia is currently working to acquire the resources necessary to implement the plan as well as develop and deliver training courses in support of the plan. VDH has instituted a “First Responder Prophylaxis” policy. Further, the Commonwealth will reduce the time needed to dispense mass therapeutics and/or vaccines to the public through the increased use of disease surveillance and early-event detection systems, maintenance of mass vaccination/dispensing plans, the coordination and administration of countermeasures, and the leveraging of information technology to improve capabilities.

The Commonwealth also continuously renews and updates statutes relating to emergency medical care including but not limited to the rationing of resources, isolation, and quarantine. In an ongoing effort, the SCP sub-panel on Health and Medical has examined, and may submit legislation regarding isolation and quarantine. Legislation on liability and indemnification protections for volunteers has been enacted. VDH is also working to secure volunteer participation by pharmacists and independent as well as pharmacy chain outlets should their services be needed in an emergency requiring those services.

Geographic Scope:

All of the projects proposed in this Investment would have a statewide application.

Program Management:

Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is integrated with Virginia Department of Health’s Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs (EP&R). It possesses a full-function management team and is linked to all Virginia-based EMS agencies and task forces.

Continue to build medical surge capabilities by focusing on the development of standards, maintenance of personnel, and the initiation of outreach programs (Target 5,6)

Description:

The following actions are being taken as part of the above initiative:

- The Commonwealth is working to raise the pay for medical examiners in order to increase the number of local medical examiners recruited and maintained throughout the State.
- The Commonwealth is encouraging every healthcare facility to prepare to sustain itself for at least 96 (updated from 72) hours following a disaster. FEMA surveys are assessing this and a baseline has been provided. This is a shared responsibility with VDEM.
- The Commonwealth will continue to develop community and medical surge capability to address situations where local resources are overwhelmed and external resources (e.g., federal resources) are not yet available.
- The Commonwealth is working to develop standards for emergency care as well as a plan and process by which physicians can determine their role in various medical emergency scenarios. Virginia is building from an existing health alert network and database for this program.
- EMS is in process of developing framework and standards to administer programs. It is currently reviewing other State programs and anticipates a two-year process to establish program to effectively carry out legislation. Regulatory and Policy Committee of Advisory Board working on penalties and fee structure.
- The Commonwealth will amend the Code of Virginia designating a State agency that will take corrective action when EMS services are inadequate or unavailable.
- Virginia VDH personnel are on working groups interfacing with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the National Incident Management System Integration Center to provide feedback on the newly-developed plans for the Federal response. This task force recommends these groups include the OCME's State Medical Examiner to provide input into these plans and be part of the working groups for the DHS/State revisions to the National Response Plan.
- Future initiatives include increasing the capacity of the regions to manage a medical surge. For medical stabilization and treatment-in-place, a mobile stand alone medical facility will be available in 4 of the 6 hospitals regions. These mobile field hospitals will be available in 2008 – 2010. These mobile hospitals will be staffed with MRC personnel and can be set up near evacuation shelters when necessary.
- There will be an increase in outreach to citizens for assistance during medical surge. Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) will be used to assist with the non-medical tasks in the hospitals and mobile hospitals to free up medical staffs and assist with 24/7 operations.
- The State Adjunct Work Force initiative and the VDH Employee Work Profile (EWP) will be used to increase the number of volunteers for VDH programs during emergencies. All VDH personnel will have a response requirement and the Adjunct Work Force initiative will assign some State employees to VDH duties during emergencies.
- A planning process begun in 2007 to develop a process for the allocation of scarce medical resources in a public health emergency is being applied to both hospital and alternate care site operational planning. A multi-disciplinary work group has created a "Critical Resource Shortage Planning Guidance" that takes healthcare providers through a step-by-step process that will help them plan for the allocation of scarce resources and actually decide how to allocate those resources during an emergency or disaster.

Geographic Scope:

All of the projects proposed in this Investment would have a statewide application.

Program Management:

Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is integrated with Virginia Department of Health's and Emergency Preparedness and Response Programs (EP&R). It possesses a full-function management team and is linked to all Virginia-based EMS agencies and task forces.

Complete installation of a pre-hospital patient care data system in Virginia, linking OEMS and hospital providers to support medical surge (Targets 5, 6)

Pre-hospital data in Virginia is currently collected by OEMS using the Pre-hospital Patient Care Reporting System (PPCR). The PPCR program will be enhanced to address several capability gaps. The current system has been identified in 2 separate Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission (JLARC) reports. As such, OEMS will implement the Emergency Medical Services registry, which will be web-based and link all information into one system. The EMS Registry will be accessible to identified users, operable on a daily basis and utilized during major events. This electronic application that will provide all Virginia certified EMS personnel, agencies, and hospitals information to improve quality of care.

This investment will support the fatality management capability. During disaster events, medical facilities and personnel are overwhelmed with the surge of live patients, and a surge of deceased remains becomes an immediate problem. The goal for Virginia would be to have the capacity to handle a mass fatality event on its own without heavy reliance on Federal support.

Securing advanced funding for immediate use following an event will ensure that resources are available quickly after an emergency to procure contract staff needed to help produce, translate and design communications materials. For-profit media return to regular programming and tend to be less receptive to using free air time for public health messages in weeks following an event. At that point, having resources to purchase air time would assist us in disseminating long-term public health messages. The additional funds would also provide human resources to maintain enhanced Web pages and print material campaigns during a long-term public health response.

This Investment will support the Governor's Terrorism and Disaster Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (TADBHAC) through funding of continuing disaster behavioral health education opportunities and planning meetings. Funding the participation of subject matter experts from academic medical centers in TADBHAC training activities will expand and enhance the impact of TADBHAC throughout the healthcare provider community.

This Initiative also includes the support to medical operations provided by the Metropolitan Medical Response Systems in Virginia.

Geographic Scope

All of the projects proposed in this Investment would have a statewide application. The pre-hospital information portion covers all EMS agencies and task forces in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The fatality management portion of the Investment adds capability to support all counties and cities within the Commonwealth.

Additional communications support would benefit all cities and counties, and these additional resources would be deployed to statewide communications operations. These resources would also support local and regional communications efforts, and the emergency behavioral health initiative would serve and protect the mental health of all citizens of the Commonwealth.

Program Management

Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is integrated with Virginia Department of Health's Emergency Preparedness and Response programs (EP&R). It possesses a full-function management team and is linked to all Virginia-based EMS agencies and task forces. VITA (Virginia Information Technology Agency) will provide technical oversight.

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

None

Future Resources Required

The following resources for the Emergency Medical Services Registry (EMSR) project are estimated to be expended in FY 2008 (July 1, 2007-June 30, 2008):

- 2/08 Notification of DHS Grant award from the Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM).
- 2/08 Supplemental Funding was received from the Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) program through a grant awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) in 2008. \$51,000.00 of this funding will be used to support implementing the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) 2.0 dataset and data collection in the EMS field. This funding will be used to establish a deliverables based contract with a Virginia Information Technologies Agency (VITA) certified project manager to develop the business plan for the EMSR.
- 3-6/08 A certified VITA project manager was hired through a deliverables based contract to develop the EMSR business plan to include: a performance plan, change and configuration plan, work breakdown structure, project schedule, procurement plan, selecting a vendor and testing and implementation development.
\$24,000.00 per month \$96,000.00
\$51,000.00 received from HRSA \$51,000.00
Total funding from OEMS funding \$45,000.00
- 4/08 VITA approval for competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) for EMSR vendor. IT requests over \$100,000.00 must go to VITA for approval.

FY 2008 \$45,000.00 from OEMS funding
 \$51,000.00 from HRSA federal funding
 \$96,000.00 TOTAL

The following resources for the Emergency Medical Services Registry (EMSR) project are estimated to be expended in FY 2009 (July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009):

7-12/08 EMSR project manager salary for 6 months
 \$144,000.00 from OEMS funding

9/08-6/09 Acquire, through competitive bid process, EMSR vendor selection and start implementation process. The vendor will submit an implementation plan to the EMSR project team for approval. Alpha and beta testing will begin and data collection from existing system will begin to implement legacy conversion.

\$200,000	Software Licenses
\$ 50,000	Implementation Cost (testing, pilots, training)
\$180,000	Performance Improvement testing (State Bridge Knowledgebase)
\$100,000	Data Mining Tool (State Bridge Advanced Reporting Module, Tree studies)
\$ 20,000	Train the Trainer Classes for Field
\$ 75,000	Mapping (State Bridge Run Geo-Encoding)
\$ 50,000	Hospital Interface
\$170,000	Resource Bridge
\$ 15,000	State Bridge Medical Personnel Certification Tracking
\$179,000	670 EFB Single (1/4 EMS Agencies)
\$ 40,000	FY2008 level support - (1/4 EMS Agencies)
\$1,079,000	

FY 2008 \$1,223,000.00 from OEMS funding or future DHS funding

The following resources for the Emergency Medical Services Registry (EMSR) project are estimated to be expended in FY 2010 (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010):

7-12/09 Conduct first phase of equipment distribution to grantees (1/4 of project)
 \$1,391,000.00 DHS Funding (Approximately 400 computers + installation)

Conduct approximately 5 trainings on EMSR on a regional basis throughout the state
 \$25,000.00 (\$5,000.00 per training)

1-6/10 Conduct second phase of equipment distribution to grantees (1/4 of project)
 \$1,391,000.00 DHS future funding (Approximately 400 computers + installation)

Conduct approximately 5 trainings on EMSR on a regional basis throughout the state

\$25,000.00 (\$5,000.00 per training)

FY 2010 level support (3/4EMS Agencies)

\$80,000.00

\$358,000.00 EFB Single (3/4 EMS Agencies)

FY 2010 \$3,270,000.00 from future DHS funding

The following resources for the Emergency Medical Services Registry (EMSR) project are estimated to be expended in FY 2011 (July 1, 2010 – June 30, 2011):

7/10-12/11 Conduct final phase of equipment distribution to grantees

\$1,391,000.00 DHS future funding (Approximately 400 computers + installation)

Conduct approximately 5 trainings on EMSR on a regional basis throughout the state

\$25,000.00 (\$5,000.00 per training)

FY 2011 level support

\$40,000.00

\$179,000.00 EFB Single

FY 2011 \$1,635,000.00 from future DHS funding

National Priority 8: Strengthen Planning and Citizen Preparedness Capabilities

A. Accomplishments

Planning Capability:

Over the past few years, several advancements have been made with Virginia emergency preparedness planning—particularly with the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP), continuity of operation (COOP) planning, and hazard mitigation planning. Information on these accomplishments is as follows:

State

- In 2007, major revisions were made to the COVEOP. The new version:
 - Embraces NIMS concepts and principles
 - Aligns with the National Response Framework
 - Merges with National Preparedness Guidelines
 - Places the Response Plan and Recovery Plan in the same document to ensure seamless operations response throughout the course of any hazard
 - Incorporates 17 Emergency Support Function (ESF) Annexes in a completely revised format from the 15 alpha-identified Emergency Response Functional Annexes included in the COVEOP, 2004/2005 edition
 - Encompasses six Support Annexes that address functions applicable to a specific type of disaster or event
 - Reduces the volume of paper and number of documents to six (from the previous eight volume set)
 - Includes a Pet Evacuation and Sheltering component consistent with SB-787 (2007 Session of VA General Assembly) in SA#6
 - Incorporates an upgraded Family Assistance Plan compact (in ESF #6)
 - Includes the following new sections:
 - Mass Evacuation and Sheltering Plan: includes the *Virginia Evacuation Coordination Team for Operational Response (VECTOR)*—Support Annex 6
 - ESF 16—Military Support: integrates all military support actions and resources (as part of the VERT) in support of the overall mission of emergency management in the Commonwealth
 - ESF 17—Volunteer and Donations Management: More easily accessible for purposes of coordination, command, and control than within ESF #6; still integrates with appropriate ESFs as deemed appropriate, including ESF 6.
- The VDEM Planning Division has hired four new regional planners as part of the 2006 SHGP. The Northern Virginia region has one dedicated planner and the other three planners each have two of the remaining 6 VDEM regions.
- ESF 17 (Volunteer and Donation Management) has been developed and added to COVEOP. ESF staff members include the State Volunteer and Donation Coordinator, VOAD representation, and the Donation Coordination Team.

- The State's risk profile is identified in the State's Hazard Mitigation Plan for natural, technological, human, and hazmat events. The assessment indicates natural events (blizzards, ice storms, and winter storms) pose the highest threat, while technological hazards (infrastructure failure) pose the lowest threat. The Virginia Standard Hazard Mitigation Plan also provides guidance for hazard mitigation and the prevention or reduction of harm to citizens and critical facilities.

Localities through Regional Cooperation

- In Region V, annual regional Health Organizations Emergency planning seminars (HOEPS) are held for nursing homes, assisted living facilities, group homes, home health agencies, and dialysis centers. Specific accomplishments include:
 - Facilities were added to the Hampton Roads WebEOC.
 - Facilities have a point of contact at the regional social services office to assist with planning, questions, etc.
 - Emergency planning review and development matrix was created to assist facilities with planning for evacuation and sheltering-in-place.
 - Some facilities now have plans and supplies to shelter-in-place beyond 3 days; often up to 7 to 10 days.
- The Hampton Roads Region has completed a study of the special needs populations, including individuals without transportation. This raw data provides the first step of developing a plan to evacuate and shelter individuals with special needs during an emergency.
- In the Hampton Roads area, made up of jurisdictions at-risk for hurricanes, regional efforts include economic development, environmental planning, evacuation planning with VDOT for hurricane response operations, and debris management planning for disaster recovery operations.
- In Northern Virginia, jurisdictions have developed MOAs with federal agencies and MOUs among the adjacent jurisdictions. They have also participated in the National Capital Region's planning efforts.

Community Preparedness and Participation Accomplishments:

The Volunteer Coordination Office within the Preparedness Division of VDEM is responsible for the support and coordination of State and local volunteer programs with disaster volunteer missions. The office also provides management of the State Citizen Corps Program and support, oversight and coordination of local Citizen Corps Councils and the Virginia's Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT) program. In addition, it provides leadership for the Virginia State Citizen Corps Council and support to other local Citizen Corps programs and affiliates. The training and coordinating activities of these programs are all based on the concepts and processes of ICS and NIMS. More information on specific programs and accomplishments is as follows:

Virginia Citizens Corps Program

The mission of the Virginia Citizen Corps Program is to bring community and government leaders together to support, educate, coordinate and engage community members in emergency preparedness, planning, mitigation, response and recovery efforts. The FY 2007 CCP funds provide resources for States and local communities to:

1. Bring together the appropriate leadership to form and sustain a Citizen Corps Council
2. Develop and implement a plan, or amend existing plans, to achieve and expand citizen preparedness and participation
3. Conduct public education and outreach
4. Ensure clear alerts/warnings and emergency communications with the public
5. Develop training programs for the public, for both all-hazards preparedness and volunteer responsibilities
6. Facilitate citizen participation in exercises
7. Implement volunteer programs and activities to support emergency responders
8. Involve citizens in surge capacity roles and responsibilities in alignment with Emergency Support Functions and Annexes
9. Conduct evaluations of programs and activities

Although the HSGP provides the primary funding for the Citizen Corps Program, the State office works diligently with other State agencies, localities, industries, and non-profit organizations to use available resources and build partnerships that expand and sustain local and regional Citizen Corps (and affiliate or related). Based on State-required local Citizen Corps Program reports, from September 2007 through December 2007, 118 Education and Outreach programs were sponsored (reaching an audience of 57,967 individuals). In addition, a total of 203 trainings were given by local Citizen Corps programs to 3,053 students, and Citizen Corps volunteers sponsored or participated in 71 events (of which 21 were considered emergency or non-emergency volunteer activations totaling 445 volunteer hours, and over 3,500 total volunteer hours were recorded).

The State Citizen Corps Office also:

- Co-sponsors with VDEM Public Affairs an annual public safety outreach symposium;
- Sponsors Regional Annual Update meetings for local Citizen Corps Program points of contact;
- Sponsors CERT TTT sessions;
- Partners with VDFP for Fire Corps development sessions;
- Sponsors regional training days that include (but are not limited to) training on Volunteer Mobilization, Cultural Sensitivity and Psychological First Aid training; and
- Provides training sessions for the business community and numerous other outreach presentations upon request to a variety of audiences.

Citizen Corps Councils

There are 55 Citizen Corps Councils in Virginia, reaching approximately 87 percent of the Commonwealth's population. These local and regional councils include a broad spectrum of local representation, and each reflects the individuality and scope of its citizenry. Many areas established councils from scratch, and several others built their council membership around existing Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPCs) or community programs. For example, the regional Central Shenandoah Citizen Corps Council began as a Project Impact Council and now serves 21 localities. In some areas, Emergency Management, VOAD organizations (ARC in the Roanoke Valley) or Volunteer Centers (Hanover, Rappahannock) were the impetus behind forming the councils. In Southwest Virginia, the Health District took the lead.

Councils sponsor numerous outreach events, in addition to the other programs they support. In 2007, Henrico County sponsored preparedness training for senior citizens and their providers at a Masonic home, where 30 residents were trained in senior citizen preparedness and 15 staff members received additional business preparedness training.

Community Emergency Response Teams

Fifty-five local CERTs, consisting of over 13,000 trained volunteers, are established throughout the Commonwealth. CERT trainings are conducted in numerous venues and are tailored to fit the local community audience. Localities partner with, and provide CERT training in, numerous businesses and local universities. Six universities have implemented CERT training, and private sector partners (including PBS, Capital One and Bank America) co-sponsor CERT training for their employees at regular intervals.

An emphasis this year was on inclusion of all citizens, and Pittsylvania began a special CERT program that focuses on matching CERT members with senior citizens who do not have family members to assist them. Central Shenandoah Valley's program sponsored a two-hour CERT Advanced Training on Deaf Culture and Emergency Sign Language for 21 of its volunteers, and the City of Richmond held special training sessions for the hospitality business community. The Wise County CERT sponsored training for 25 members of the Southwest Virginia Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community; and the brand new Bristol CERT (which spans two States) began planning its "Media CERT" training program.

A second focus this year was on creating a culture of preparedness, particularly among young adults and children. Official Teen CERT programs began in Portsmouth and Pittsylvania counties, and Danville completed its first offering of Campus CERT training. These programs were in addition to teen programs already in place in the Roanoke Valley and Colonial Heights as well as Page County's youth program for county Cub Scouts.

Virginia CERT programs are also focusing on communication, with an emphasis on amateur radio operation training and the formation of amateur radio CERT teams. In Pittsylvania County the county's entire Amateur Radio EOC operation is CERT-developed and run, while in the Tidewater area, active groups are establishing neighborhood communication relay teams and are being assigned to assist their local Emergency Managers at the local EOC.

As a result of the above efforts, CERTs continue to assist and support localities in response and recovery efforts. Most recently, Danville CERT members spent a total of 82 volunteer hours assisting in a Search & Rescue effort for a missing Alzheimer patient on 12/02/07, and several Southwest Virginia CERT groups assisted with EOC operations during spring tornado events.

The State Office sponsors a series of annual CERT Train-the-Trainer Sessions for instructors across the State, based on regional need. In 2007 five sessions were sponsored, including two new programs – Teen CERT and Campus CERT. State agency employees are also offered the basic CERT curriculum in an annual 3-week session sponsored by the state office.

Medical Reserve Corps

There are 25 Citizen Corps Medical Reserve Corps programs across the State, and each Virginia MRC program serves numerous localities (with approximately 5,000 volunteers total). Virginia's MRC programs are under the auspices of VDH and are based with local Public health agencies where they take a lead in year-round public health initiatives. Each MRC is tailored to fit its community. For example, on the Tidewater Peninsula, the Peninsula MRC reported in 2007 that it has 583 registered volunteers who supported 4 Flu Shot Clinics, 25 Community Blood Pressure Screenings, a Homeless Outreach Event, Healthy Heart Awareness, and "Go Red Day". In addition they held two Rabies and Disaster Preparedness Clinics, participated in several exercises, gave nine emergency preparedness presentations to the community and participated in the local Special Medical Needs and Pet Sheltering planning. They also hosted HSUS Disaster Animal Response Training and the Virginia Citizen Corps Tidewater Training Day and held more than 50 training sessions for their volunteers.

Law Enforcement Volunteers

There is no State level agency program director for either Neighborhood Watch or Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS). Guidance and support is provided for the local programs from the State Citizen Corps office in partnership with the Virginia Crime Prevention Association (VCPA). Neighborhood Watch and VIPS programs now include 4,794 groups across Virginia, averaging 66 households each. These groups have started forming partnerships with local CERT programs to increase enrollment and to provide additional preparedness training. In 2007 the VCPA and VDEM partnered to provide Neighborhood Watch Toolkit training, and in 2008 VCPA will sponsor the first statewide Neighborhood Watch Conference. (In 2003 VDEM and VCPA partnered to sponsor a series of regional informational and training conferences for Neighborhood Watch.)

Volunteer Training

Additional training offered to volunteers affiliated with Virginia's local Citizen Corps programs and targeted to local gaps includes (but is not limited to): Preliminary Damage Assessment, Shelter Management, Donations Management, Volunteer Reception Center, Cultural Awareness, Amateur radio technician and ICS/NIMS training.

Business Preparedness Activities

A web site portal and on line Business Preparedness Toolkit was established through a VDEM Public Affairs and Virginia State Citizen Corps Council partnership. This web site includes on-line planning documents and templates. In addition, this partnership developed a desktop spiral guide and an education team that provides presentations and lectures for different levels upon request.

Personal Preparedness Activities

Through a partnership of VDEM, VDH and the Virginia State Citizen Corps Council Work Group (representing Voluntary Agencies, numerous State agencies and other service providers), a series of (11) regional *Community Based Emergency Response Seminars (CBERS) Preparing for All Abilities* sessions were held across the State in 2007. These sessions provided resources, guidance and opportunities for networking and dialogue, and were designed to enhance the inclusion of all community sectors in emergency planning activities. Attendees (100+ at each

session) included the First Responder, Emergency Management, Service Provider and at-risk consumer communities. Private and public sector entities (to include, but not limited to, Red Cross, FEMA/Emergency Management Institute, Virginia (National) Crime Prevention Association, CERT, Department of Justice) are partnering in an effort to define and communicate the services they provide in the Commonwealth. These groups provide outreach materials as well as education and training programs.

Continuity of Operations / Continuity of Government Accomplishments:

The Commonwealth of Virginia has led the region and the nation in assisting executive agencies and institutions of higher education develop Continuity of Operations (COOP) plans. The State Planning Assistance Branch within the Preparedness Division of VDEM is responsible for the oversight and coordination of the statewide COOP program. Accomplishments in this area include the following:

- Development of a COOP Planning Manual to serve as both a standard and guidance for State agencies to use in the development and maintenance of their COOP Plans. A living document, this manual is continuously refined and updated. It offers both procedural and operational guidance for the preparation and implementation of a COOP plan following a seven-phase process. In November 2005 the VDEM COOP Planning Manual was cited as an EMAP “Best Practice.” In November 2006 the VDEM COOP Planning Manual received an Honorable Mention Media Award from the International Association of Emergency Managers.
- Creation of the COOP Toolkit, an on-line resource posted on the VDEM webpage, www.vaemergency.com. The Toolkit provides one-stop access to a variety of business and government continuity planning resources including the VDEM COOP Planning Manual, COOP Worksheets, a COOP Plan Template, lessons learned, and information about the COOP Steering Committee and potential COOP Funding sources. In November 2006 the VDEM COOP Toolkit received an Honorable Mention Media Award from the International Association of Emergency Managers.
- Development of an online Local Government COOP Toolkit in collaboration with a committee comprised of representatives from localities across the Commonwealth, including the Virginia Association of Counties and the Virginia Municipal League. The toolkit contains COOP planning manual, worksheets and templates to provide guidance to local governments for the development and maintenance of COOP plans.
- Development of an online Institution of Higher Education COOP Toolkit in collaboration with a committee comprised of representatives from 2 and 4 year colleges and universities, both public and private as well as the Virginia Community College System. The toolkit includes a COOP planning manual, worksheets and templates to provide specific guidance on plan and program development that reflects the unique situations that make COOP planning a challenge for institutions.
- Creation of a Pandemic Influenza Annex for COOP Guidance.
- Completion of a Continuity of Government (COG) Plan for each Secretary’s Office including an overarching logistics plan.
- Pursuant to Executive Order 44, VDEM received 120 COOP Plans from executive branch agencies and institutions of higher education. 109 of these plans were assessed.

Critical Resource Logistics and Distribution Capability Accomplishments:

Planning for critical resources during emergency — particularly typing resources according to NIMS standards and establishing Points of Distribution (POD) has been an ongoing initiative throughout Virginia. Accomplishments regarding critical resources and distribution are as follows:

- As of 2007, 45 of Virginia's 139 jurisdictions have provided an inventory of their resources.
- The Virginia Department of Health has located 355 Points of Dispensing for on-scene dispensing of antidotes. Per the dispensing plan, these sites, when mobilized, will be staffed by members from one of the 26 Medical Reserve Corps units, along with Citizen Corps units, located within the Commonwealth.
- Resource Management has initiated a new program for collecting resource data from localities and State agencies, resulting in better requesting, tracking and documentation accountability of commodities.
- Data collected will be combined into WebEOC Resource Manager and will be the Commonwealth's main database for locality and agency resources.
- Forms are being developed that will be available for download to allow for better tracking of received resources.
- Region VII in particular has recently focused on the establishment of sites for PODs.
- An MOU between VDEM and Aidmatrix was entered into for the implementation of the Aidmatrix Donations Management Database. This is a Web-based system, also connected to the State VPIC Donations Hotline for the tracking of donated goods, cash donations, and spontaneous volunteers.
- A drafted MOU with Adventist Community Services for the management of a multi-agency Donation Warehouse.

Citizen Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Capability Accomplishments:

With plans already established in the Commonwealth for the evacuation of citizens, accomplishments in this area center around plan maintenance, the development of an evacuation communications plan, and the development of capabilities for evacuation and sheltering-in-place at the regional level.

Citizen Evacuation

- The Commonwealth of Virginia Evacuation Plan is updated biannually, and Northern Virginia is working on a regional evacuation plan.
- A State comprehensive Commonwealth Hurricane Evacuation and Sheltering Communications Plan is being developed. A first draft will be released in 2008 and will be further developed and tested in 2008 – 2010.
- The VDOT hurricane evacuation plan provides a system to move evacuees out of hurricane-prone jurisdictions.
- The planning division at VDEM is working on inmate evacuation and on transportation evacuation plans.
- An evacuation plan has been drafted for Northern Virginia, and local plans within Region VII have been developed to coordinate with it. Additionally, Fairfax County has

developed a special needs registry to assist individuals who need evacuation assistance and has likewise developed a DVD with shelter-in-place information for citizens.

- The Chesterfield Police Department in Region I has identified schools as evacuation centers and infrastructures needed to support. It has also conducted exercises annually and identified points of contact during exercises.
- Alarm testing has been conducted in Hopewell for evacuations.
- Evacuation prone localities have increased lines of communication with the State for evacuation.

Shelter-in-Place

- Local Citizen Corps efforts have been dedicated to training volunteers/citizens and shelter management.
- Prince George County has increased the number of county employees required to be trained in shelter-in-place
- Fairfax County has developed a special needs registry to assist individuals who need evacuation assistance and has likewise developed a DVD with shelter-in-place information for citizens.
- Region I is working on pet placement during evacuation and shelter-in-place, and the Chesterfield Police Department has adopted a Pet Sheltering Plan.
- Region I has increased the number of generators and has MOUs with fuel companies.
- Region I has increased partnerships with jails, private organizations, and labor unions to provide food, equipment, and shelters. These increased partnerships have also provided more volunteers.

Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability Accomplishments:

From selecting shelter sites across the State to identifying additional workforce capacity for mass care, the following accomplishments have been made over the past few years:

- The Virginia Department of Social Services, in coordination with the Virginia State Police, and the Departments of Emergency Management, Rehabilitative Services, Health, Agriculture and Consumer Services, and other key players, selected shelter sites across the Commonwealth that can be used for mass evacuations across jurisdictional boundaries within the Commonwealth. The Department of Social Services maintains and updates the list of shelter locations). These shelters are in State owned facilities, many of which are State-funded colleges and universities, located close to and along known major evacuation corridors.
 - A State Managed Shelter Program draft Basic Plan utilizing a Unified Command Structure was developed in response to this initiative. State agency stakeholders, Departments of Health, Virginia State Police, and Agriculture and Consumer Services developed Annexes to support the Basic Plan.
 - Virginia Department of Health provided VDEM with recommended emergency supply lists such that pre-scripted mission assignments can be created should these assets be needed to support a state managed shelter activation.

- The Governor approved an adjunct workforce composed of non-VERT agency State employees to augment State shelter staffing
 - A State Shelter Site Assessment Team comprised of State, local and non-government partners completed on-site assessments of approximately 65 of the 113 potential sites to determine viability for use as State shelters.
 - For those sites determined viable, plans were developed to conduct Retrofit Evaluations for quick connect of electric generators. Seventeen of those evaluations are completed. A design and construction project phase will follow. One such project is currently underway.
- Region III has identified regional shelter facilities, routes and highways for evacuation and established a website through a local 9-1-1 Center to provide emergency information for mass care services.

B. Current Capabilities

Planning Capability:

- Regional and State/local strategic plans include, but are not limited to, the national mission areas of prevent, protect against, respond to, and recover from man-made and natural disasters and acts of terrorism.
- The strategic plan defines the vision, mission, goals, and objectives of the jurisdiction.
- The strategic plan addresses protection against, response to, and recovery from natural and manmade disasters as well as acts of terrorism.
- Improvement actions from after action reports (AARs) and lessons learned are implemented according to the scale of disaster(s) and/or through defined Federal mandate for schedule for completion.
- Emergency response plans are consistent with the NRF and NIMS.
- Mutual aid assistance agreements are in place with contiguous jurisdictions.
- Pre-identified mechanisms to request assistance from counties, the State, or the Federal Government are in place.
- Plans are exercised and/or evaluated according to Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program (HSEEP) requirements.

Citizen Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Capability:

- Evacuation and shelter-in-place plans address the development and dissemination of accurate, timely, accessible information to public, media, and support agencies.
- Planning and informational materials to be released to the public for evacuation or sheltering in place have been shared with the servicing public safety communication centers and Public Service Answering Points (PSAPs).
- Plans addressing authority and decision-making processes for shelter-in-place and/or evacuations are in place.
- Nonprofit organizations/NGOs (e.g. the American Red Cross, Salvation Army, faith-based organizations) were actively engaged in plan development.
- Evacuation plan(s) identifying evacuation routes and traffic flow and control measures are in place.

- Plans identifying measures to ensure adequate services (e.g., gas, food, water, tow trucks, medical emergencies, etc.) along the evacuation route(s) are in place.
- Training for staff involved in evacuations, sheltering, logistical supply, and support of shelters is developed and training is on-going.
- Local emergency response agencies/staff including public safety answering points are trained on local evacuation/shelter-in-place strategies.
- Citizen protection decisions are coordinated with surrounding jurisdictions to support evacuation routes, and activate reception facilities and shelters.
- As an example of regional capabilities, the accomplishments in Region III have resulted in relationships being established between the key departments and agencies providing mass care. There is also a better understanding of which entities are responsible for various activities during emergencies.

Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability:

Local and Regional

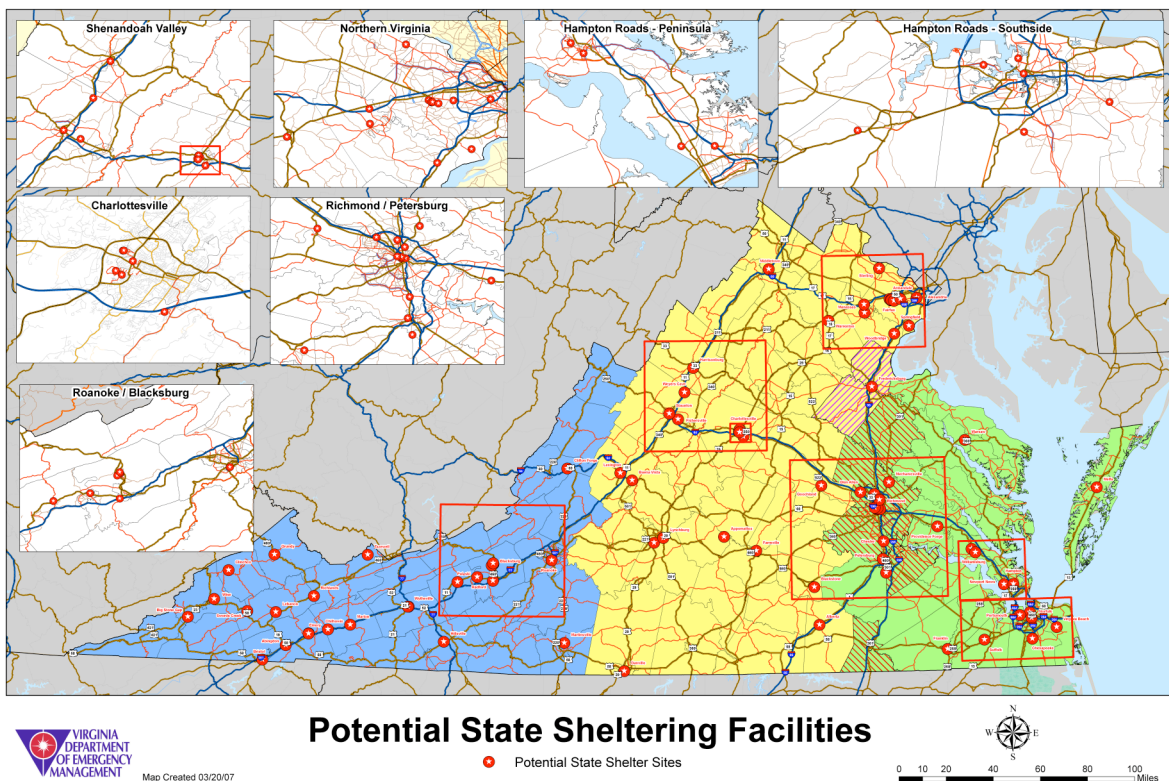
- A mass care plan for the general population is in place.
- Shelter agreements for each jurisdiction are in place.
- The mass care plan addresses the safety and security of shelter facilities.
- The mass care plan includes MOUs with non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to provide personnel and equipment support following an incident.
- The mass care plan includes programs for recruiting volunteers.
- A training and exercise program for mass care personnel is in place and covers sheltering, feeding and bulk distribution services.
- The training and exercise program addresses common mass care issues (e.g. culture, language, accommodating people with disabilities in general population shelters etc.).

State Managed Shelter Program

- The State Managed Shelter Program is designed using a Unified Command Structure.
- The Program addresses mass evacuation needs designed to co-locate Special Medical Needs in general population shelters and to establish pet shelters either in the same building or within close proximity to people shelters.
- Using the developed Basic Plan, site specific plans are being developed for each State Shelter building and will include details pertinent to all aspects of the shelter management operation including pet sheltering. One such site specific plan is in final draft.
- The plan is integrated with evacuation (e.g. evacuation routes to shelters are identified) and traffic direction and control planning.
- The plan addresses the safety and security of shelter facilities, personnel, shelter occupants and pets.
- An online Shelter training program is developed for mass care personnel.
- Some colleges/universities designated as State Shelters with food service capacity have agreed to increase food service to provide meals for the shelter occupants and staff. The Virginia National Guard and voluntary agencies are determining capability to

augment/provide food services/feeding at State Shelters. Contracts are in place to secure catered food service, if necessary.

- The following map indicates pre-identified potential State Managed Shelter sites:



Community Preparedness and Participation Capability:

- Plans include MOUs specific to Multi-Agency Donation Warehouse Management & Operation and a Web-based donated resource tracking and management system – Aidmatrix.
- Citizen Corps Volunteers are trained for surge capacity roles for ESFs and annexes, including Transportation, Communications, Mass Care, Resources Management, Public Health and Medical Services, Search and Rescue, Public Safety and Security, Long-Term Community.
- Non-governmental resources can be quickly deployed using stand-by contracts, MOUs and MOAs.
- Jurisdictions outside of the incident impact area can provide volunteer and donations support through pre-established mechanisms.
- Jurisdictions outside of the incident impact area can provide mass care to evacuees, as needed.

Continuity of Operations / Continuity of Government:

- Agency and institution COOP plans assure the capability exists to continue organization-essential functions across a wide range of potential emergencies.

- Secretary COG plans provide a prioritized listing of agency functions in case of a catastrophic event impacting multiple agencies and describe orders of succession and delegation of authority and indicate alternate facilities for the Secretary's Offices.
- Online Toolkits provide planning resources for the development of agency, institution and locality COOP programs and plans.
- COOP training and planning assistance ensures users are familiar with the planning process and available resources.
- Annual Assessments describe recommendations for areas for improvement and highlight best practices in agency and institution plans.

Critical Resource Logistics and Distribution Capability:

- Plans and procedures address activation of the resource management system and donations resource management system.
- Tracking and recording systems for resources are developed and tested.
- Resource and vendor lists are in place.
- Critical resource management plans are supported by standing contracts and/or emergency purchase mechanisms such as credit cards or debit cards (e.g. rapid purchasing mechanisms are in place for specialized resources such as GIS and cell providers).
- Pre-negotiated vendor contracts for critical resources and essential services are in place and maintained.
- Plans, procedures, and systems to pre-position resources in order to efficiently and effectively respond to an event are in place.
- Processes and procedures to ensure that resource providers are reimbursed in a timely manner are in place.
- Determination is made regarding whether assistance from outside jurisdictions (i.e. mutual aid, Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC)) is needed.
- Resources and personnel are cycled per the IAP.
- Plans and procedures address management of supplies (e.g., secure and appropriate storage, transportation through restricted areas, etc).
- Resources are returned to original provider.

C. Three-Year Targets

Planning Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
90% of all jurisdictions will have completed a capability assessment on 20 of 37 target capabilities. This information will be recorded in the National Preparedness System.	2010	Open
The Commonwealth will have regional disaster plans to support preparedness, response, recovery and mitigation efforts across multiple jurisdictions within Virginia and across State lines.	2010	Open

7 of the 17 State managed shelters will be retrofitted to serve as shelters during a mass evacuation, have a shelter tracking system in place for these sites, a trained State employee staff to assist in managing these sites, and a plan for pet care at each associated pet-friendly site.	2010	Open
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Citizen Evacuation and Shelter-in-Place Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Region VII and V— All regional evacuation/mass care plans complete, synchronized and exercised; evaluation to identify and attain resources to support mass care as well as provide better support for individuals with special needs	2010	Open

Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services) Capability:

In addition to the goals below, a retrofit project is scheduled for the year 2008 for the Zone 1 site – adding quick electrical connections into the electrical systems for standby generators.

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
The shelter sites identified must be evaluated to determine viability. State Shelter Assessment Team completed physical on-site assessments of the potential sites in Zones 1 and 2; Zone 3 is targeted for completion in 2009; and Zone 4 in 2010. The Retrofit evaluation for Zone 1 sites is complete; Zone 2 is projected for completion in 2008; and Zone 3 projected for completion in 2010.	2010	Open
Virginia's institutions will be prepared to respond to and mitigate man-made and natural disasters, and the Commonwealth will work with college and university officials to develop emergency management plans, including an assessment of emergency sheltering capabilities for on-campus needs.	2010	Open

Community Preparedness and Participation Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Rapidly identify, mobilize, and credential volunteers responding to an emergency situation.	2010	Open
Provide citizens information on how to respond to different	2010	Open

emergency scenarios. Delivery of this information would be based on the results of a community preparedness survey.		
Ensure businesses have the required information, training, tools and established partnerships to prepare for, mitigate, respond to, and recover from man-made or natural disasters.	2010	Open

Continuity of Operations / Continuity of Government:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Strengthen the Commonwealth COOP Program through ongoing maintenance of individual COOP plans and Secretary COG plans.	On-going	
Offer continual planning assistance and guidance in COOP plan and program development.	On-going	
Annually revise the current online COOP Toolkits to ensure they continue to reflect current planning standards and the changing needs of the executive branch agencies, institutions of higher education and local governments.	On-going	
Provide training on how to test and exercise a COOP plan to agencies and institutions of higher education.	2009	
Require agencies and institutions to annually test and/or exercise their COOP plan.	2010	
Develop a self-assessment tool for agencies, institutions and localities to use in evaluating their COOP plans.	2008	

Critical Resource Logistics and Distribution Capability:

Target Description	Projected Completion Year	Status
Development and implementation of MOUs for State operated staging areas throughout the Commonwealth.	2010	Open
Regional committees have representation from a variety of NIPP sectors to contribute to recovery plans, identification of regional needs, training and exercises.	2010	Open
The development and implementation of MOAs with neighboring States to respond and assist during	2010	Open

emergencies.		
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D. Initiatives

Regional planning staff augmentation will be provided to assist regional and local planning efforts including plan development, governance structure management, capability assessment, gap analysis and resource allocation. (Regional Collaboration Targets Inter-State Targets 1, 2, 3 and Intra-State Targets 1, 2, 4; Planning Targets 1, 2 and Logistics Targets 1, 2)

Description

This investment will implement two related planning activities, the first of which is the placement of an EM regional planner in 6 of the 7 regions within Virginia. At the request of the regions these planners will be hired by the SAA, located in each region and work across all localities on issues like Mutual Aid Agreements, Continuity of Operations Planning, Evacuation and Sheltering Plans. These individuals will also serve as planners to assist with regional issues including the management of the regional governance structure.

The second activity is to provide staff augmentation for all seven regions, the regional planners, and emergency manager in completing jurisdictional capabilities assessment. The data collected through this process will be entered into the National Preparedness System, providing a planning tool for each jurisdiction, region and the Commonwealth of Virginia. During the three years of grant performance a total of 24 of the capabilities critical to Virginia will be assessed and documented.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative impacts six of the seven regions. A total of eight regional planners will be brought on board across six regions to assist with planning and governance management. All seven regions will also have staff augmentation to assist with the assessment and documentation of target capabilities.

Program Management:

State Administrative Agency:

The Virginia Department of Emergency Management is the State Administrative Agency, and the will award funds to seven jurisdictions. Each jurisdiction will have been selected by the region to serve as the fiscal agent and project manager for this investment. The SAA will also serve initially as the contract manager completing the statewide contract for vendor conducted capability assessments.

Additionally, the SAA has a full-time procurement office managed by the Director of Purchasing. He has completed the Virginia Contracting Officer program and works closely with both the localities as well as the State's procurement governing body.

Locality Project Management:

Each region will select a fiscal and project agent to manage this investment. Criteria for selection includes ample staff resources and qualifications, a record of appropriate fund usage and timely

reporting, as well as positive audit reviews. The SAA will hire the regional planners and a capabilities assessment contractor through a Memorandum of Understanding with all regional jurisdictions outlining responsibilities and timelines. The regional planner will report to the chair of each regional governance structure (see below).

Governance Structure:

The SAA and Office of Commonwealth Preparedness have in place a Regional Preparedness Advisory Committee structure. This governance structure will be used to monitor the progress and effectiveness of this solution for the identified gap. The RPAC meets quarterly, involves multi-disciplinary representation from all public safety entities, NGO and business/industry within the region. This governance structure is well into its second year of operation and, while each region is at a different level of maturity, the regions are beginning to understand how to maintain communication and coordination between meetings. These seven groups are staffed by the SAA and OCP.

Develop a standard emergency management planning process for local governments and ensure State-level plans coordinate with federal initiatives. (COOP Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6)

Description:

This initiative will help bridge the knowledge and resource gap for emergency operations planning through the development, documentation and validation of a standard emergency management planning process and plan template for use by local jurisdictions, State agencies and State colleges and universities. In addition, jurisdictions receiving grant funding for plan development would agree to meet minimum emergency management training standards (as determined by VDEM) for their emergency management coordinators, deputy coordinators and emergency management planning staff. This will result in more comprehensive local plans employing appropriate NIMS components in all phases of emergency management, providing plan compatibility with State and NRF protocols and coordinating structures, and ensuring compliance with the EMAP standards for Disaster/Emergency Management and COOP Programs. In addition to the above, the following actions will be (or are already being) taken as part of this initiative:

- The Commonwealth will revise the Virginia Emergency Response Plan to coordinate with the concept and format of the National Response Framework.
- Virginia VDH personnel are participating in working groups interfacing with DHS and the National Incident Management System Integration Center to provide feedback on the newly-developed plans for the Federal response.
- A Comprehensive Hurricane Evacuation and Sheltering Communications Plan is being developed. A first draft will be released in 2008 and will be further developed and tested in 2008 – 2010. OCP has the lead for this project and is working with VDEM, VDOT, VSP, DSS, and VDH.
- Local planning will be strengthened through the addition of three planners in the Local Planning Assistance Branch of the Preparedness, Training and Exercises Division. These planners will be assigned by region primarily to assist localities; however, they will also assist regional efforts.

- Current evacuation and shelter planning will be expanded to include a comprehensive statewide all-hazards evacuation and sheltering annex with a regional approach (NCR, Hampton Roads, Metro Richmond, etc.). Planning will include special needs populations (including individuals who are transportation disadvantaged) as well as pets.
- The development of a Pandemic Influenza Incident Annex to the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Operations Plan (COVEOP).
- The development of a Catastrophic Incident Annex and supporting planning documents to the COVEOP that will:
 - Ensure the resiliency of social services and ease enrollment processes in the event of a catastrophic event.
 - Fully address requirements for populations with special needs, particularly persons with disabilities.
 - Ensure prompt evacuation of patients (ambulatory and non-ambulatory) from health care facilities and provide a means for patient tracking throughout the health care system.
 - Strengthen regional planning and pre-event identification of potential assistance needs.
 - Ensure evacuation planning is mutually supportive among contiguous jurisdictions, States and the District of Columbia and uses all available transportation modes and resources.
 - Identify routes of egress/ingress, and identify destinations and shelter options for displacement populations.

Geographic Scope:

This is a statewide initiative applicable to all political subdivisions as defined by the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Services and Disaster Law of 2000, emergency response team agencies of the State and State colleges/universities.

Program Management:

During the development phase, VDEM's Local Planning Assistance Branch Chief would serve as the link between VDEM's Senior Management Team, the stakeholder's group, the selected firm's project management team with appropriate stakeholder review of deliverables at pre-identified points during the project. VDEM's Senior Management Team would have final approval authority for product acceptance. VDEM's Regional Coordinators would serve as the link between the local emergency manager/coordinator for advice, assistance and quality assurance. Matters of policy and funding would be directed to the Local Planning Assistance Branch Chief at VDEM, who would also monitor and report progress to the Senior Management Team.

The Commonwealth proposes to leverage the expertise of emergency management planners, trainers, and coordinators (at the State, local, and regional levels) as a stakeholder group. This group will identify planning processes and standards to be employed at the local level, develop scope, deliverables and timeline for the project and RFP process, and select a qualified consultant/firm funded through homeland security grant funds. The selected consultant will develop template and web-based tools for local use, and the State will validate process compliance, local plan content, and appropriate intra/inter-jurisdictional coordination. Once

developed, localities would receive LEMPG funding for plan development with guidance, advice and assistance provided the local planning team through VDEM's Regional Coordinators and local Planning Assistance Branch.

***Coordinate Regional Planning Activities and Encourage Regional Planning Approach.
(Target Planning 1, 2, 3 and Logistics 1, 2)***

Description:

There are a number of governmental organizations that use geographic regions to administer their programs and provide their services. The Virginia State Police administers its law enforcement services through seven geographic districts (these are also the seven homeland security regions). The Commonwealth is further divided into 21 Planning District Commissions (PDCs), and the Virginia Department of Health assists local health departments through an organization of 35 Health Districts. Even so, a Planning Capability Review revealed the need for enhanced planning across regional boundaries.

This initiative would contribute to a regionally coordinated system of emergency management throughout the Commonwealth. For instance, the VDOT hurricane evacuation plan that provides a system to move evacuees out of the hurricane risk jurisdictions would serve as a model for an initial approach to evacuation planning in other densely populated areas vulnerable to other natural or man-made hazards. This common approach to issues of regional evacuation planning would result in reciprocal mutual aid agreements to provide regional host sheltering and evacuee services to displaced populations. Other actions that will be taken to achieve this initiative include the following:

- The State and local governments will continue to conduct multi-jurisdictional and/or regional exercises annually that include coordination with Federal agencies and private and volunteer organizations, as appropriate.
- The operational regions are developing regional plans to support preparedness and response initiatives. Each region's plan will include profiles of infrastructure, critical facilities, and resources to support operations. Northern Virginia and Hampton Roads are conducting resiliency studies to augment planning efforts, and these studies will be conducted in the other regions in the future.
- The State will facilitate quarterly meetings across Virginia for agency employees and civilians in operational roles to train and discuss first responder issues.
- State-funded colleges and universities are now treated as separate jurisdictions and will develop and submit their emergency plans to VDEM for review (partially begun in 2007, fully implemented in 2008). The Local Planning Branch staff is working with colleges and universities to develop a standard functionally coordinated template for use in plan development and will help conduct planning workshops. It is anticipated that these institutions will want to participate in the emergency management program (plans review) as well. Related legislation has been recommended and internal and external resources are being identified for plan implementation.

- Included as part of the Governor's score card is a 10% increase each year on the number of local plans reviewed by VDEM. VDEM is also working to develop numerous templates for localities and others to use for the planning process.

Geographic Scope:

In order to facilitate regional emergency management planning, this initiative would be established through the seven VDEM regional offices, while leveraging resources available through the PDCs, Virginia Department of Transportation, the Public Health Department, the State Police and other State agencies' District Offices.

Program Management:

Currently a dedicated full-time regional coordinator is assigned to each emergency management region to provide ongoing support in the design, development, analysis and implementation of comprehensive all-hazards emergency management programs at the local and regional levels. During normal operations, these field coordinators maintain a continuous dialogue between localities and VDEM central office staff to ensure State and Federal programs support and enhance development of comprehensive local emergency management capabilities. They also help to synchronize target and threat assessments, State planning, Federal funding and incident management activities between State agencies and localities. In addition, the regional coordinator provides feedback to VDEM senior staff, offering an opportunity to forge strong relationships with Virginia localities.

When major emergencies affect communities, the regional coordinators provide critical coordination of information and resources to those communities to help alleviate problems and promote a return to normalcy. This initiative would enhance the ability of regional offices to deliver support services and focus on preparedness activities (such as coordinated planning, training and exercises on a regional basis) by providing a dedicated regional emergency management planner. This planner would be hired for the full grant period, along with a dedicated regional emergency management trainer for the second year of the grant period (in each of the seven regions). Initial funding support would be through DHS Grants and shift to a combination of EMPG and State funding at the end of the grant period.

VDEM would oversee the implementation of this initiative through its Local Support Services Division and regional coordinators in conjunction with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness and its regional working groups. Effectiveness of these local preparedness and regional planning collaboration efforts would be included in the annual statewide emergency management assessment conducted in cooperation with political subdivisions, private industry and other public and private entities deemed vital to preparedness, public safety and security. A report of this assessment is submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly by the first day of each regular session of the General Assembly.

Build sufficient shelter capacity and provide necessary resources for mass evacuations—for both the general population and special needs populations. (Target Planning 3, Citizen Evacuation 1; Mass Care 1, 2; Citizen Prep 1)

Description:

Currently identified shelter space within the Commonwealth is insufficient to address the number of evacuees that would need to be sheltered due to a major terrorist event or natural disaster. In addition to insufficient shelters for the general population, shelter facilities and protocols for special needs populations is also a key focus for the Commonwealth. Preliminary raw data exists for both locally operated and potential State shelter sites. The data includes estimated current shelter space and types available, GIS locations for some shelters, and information on available back-up power.

To address this deficiency, the following assessments are still in process:

- Evaluation of State owned, municipally owned, and non-profit assets--buildings, sports arenas, camps, open spaces suitable for placement of tents or trailers-- that could provide additional shelter capacity (Primary emphasis will be on sites capable of housing over 1,000 people) for both general and special medical needs populations.
- Identification of any special characteristics about the shelters that would limit their use under certain circumstances, and
- Develop a standardized set of data elements concerning essential shelter characteristics (including ADA requirements and other legal statutes) and establish a database capable of holding and manipulating such data.

Once the results of this study are known, additional planning and implementation steps will need to take place, including the development of regional sheltering plans and an overall statewide sheltering plan. A further step, after the necessary sheltering plans are developed, would be to plan and execute tabletop and/or functional exercises.

In addition to these actions, the following sheltering and evacuation initiatives should be, or are currently being, taken:

- VDSS is working with colleges and universities to identify facilities for shelters
- Assessments of shelter capabilities at State-supported colleges and universities is approximately 50% complete. Rounds 1 and 2 (from the coast up to 200 miles inland) have been completed and facility summaries written and distributed. Round 3 (200+ miles inland) assessments are scheduled for Fall 2008 through Spring 2009.
- VDSS identified communications needs for State Managed Shelters and continues planning to identify requirements to secure solutions for rapid registration and tracking of people and pets; provision of beneficial disaster and human service programs to disaster victims, and communications within and between shelters during a mass evacuation event.
- A regional transportation study is needed to identify evacuation requirements for special needs populations throughout the State. In particular, regions must identify the type and number of buses and/or equipment that will be needed to transport special needs individuals.
- Hampton Roads Emergency Management Committee (HREMC) is continuing to work on issues related to citizen evacuation from the Hampton Roads area, and continuing to study specific requirements of special needs population during large scale emergencies.
- Region V is focusing on completion of a special needs registry and integrating remaining nursing home/assisted living facility information and special needs information into WebEOC.

- To enhance evacuation and mass care plans, Region III proposes the following initiatives be taken:
 - Train and exercise evacuation and shelter-in-place annually (State and local officials) including pets.
 - Organize efforts to complete plan and prioritize commitments.
 - Continue development of transportation plans for evacuation.
 - Continue assessing and identifying shelters.
 - Work on developing the Rapid Registration and Tracking system for evacuees.
 - Plan for re-entry of evacuees. From a sheltering perspective, the State needs to make the effort to move people out of shelters within 30 days.
- In order to ensure all evacuation/mass care plans for Region VII are complete, synchronized and exercised, the following initiatives will be implemented:
 - Catalogue existing plans and assess conflict
 - Resolve conflicts and develop resolution between NCR and NOVA plan
 - Develop a plan for evacuation corridor hwy improvements and needs
 - Strengthen and improve consistent messaging before, during and after an event
 - Regional exercises should take place at least once per year
 - Develop plan for mass care medical backup support exceeding 1, 000 persons
 - Develop regional plan for shelter of 1st responders
 - Support FEMA Region III's evacuation planning
- In order to identify and attain the resources needed to provide mass care to its citizens, Region VII proposes the following initiatives be taken:
 - Increase grants and funding to purchase more generators
 - Attain the required volunteer personnel
 - Stock local and State PODs with food and water for 5,000 people
 - Establish advanced MOU's with privately owned transportation providers
- To provide better care to individuals with special needs in particular, Region VII proposes the following initiatives be taken:
 - Define the term "special needs"
 - Assess the special needs population and create a registry after services have been established
 - Train first responders to work with individuals with special needs
 - Improve State fire code to require building owners adequate resources to evacuate special needs populations
 - Require VA insurance companies to reimburse localities for review and approval of private health and child care facilities and require annual exercises.
 - Require localities to exercise school lockdown and shelter-in-place annually

Geographic Scope:

Initially, two regional planning organizations can use the results of the FY 2006 investment: the Regional Emergency Management Technical Advisory Committee of the Hampton Roads Planning District Commission and the Council on Government from the National Capital Region. However, the overall geographical scope of this initiative is statewide.

Program Management:

In its State Homeland Security Plan, the Commonwealth identified *Protective Measures* (evacuation and sheltering), as one of its five highest priorities. Certain State and local facilities have already been identified as shelter sites (such as university sports arenas and municipal convention centers). Facilities for special needs shelters must also be established, keeping in mind that co-location with general population shelters helps ensure compliance with certain Federal guidelines. The roles and responsibilities of opening, managing, and closing additional general population and special needs shelters are complex and should be based on detailed agreements and MOUs. The use of any State-owned asset for sheltering could be ordered by the governor under his existing authorities. Likewise, the governing body of a municipality can designate any municipal asset to be used as a shelter.

Promote personal preparedness in the Commonwealth (for the general population as well as special needs populations) through a variety of programs and mediums. (Target Citizen Prep 2)

Description:

This initiative seeks to provide citizens in all regions of the Commonwealth access to the information, training and services necessary to safeguard their health and property (and to provide help to others) before, during, and after emergencies. This initiative will focus in particular on the identification of additional outreach materials and the integration of these materials into existing education and training systems. The following actions will be (or are already being) taken as part of the initiative:

- Grant funds are now available to begin a State-wide advertising campaign to promote community preparedness. This campaign is being developed using multiple mediums (TV/radio spots, billboards, public services announcements, etc.) and a consultant has been hired to assist with the process.
- Ready Virginia Campaign will continue and expand its reach.
- The state-wide advertising campaign will be further developed and launched in the 2008-2010 period.
- Training exercises – VERTEX, VOPEX, and regional exercises – that involve emergency public information and warning will continue to provide opportunities for local citizen group participation.
- Several Virginia public schools already have preparedness programs, and Virginia has submitted a grant application to expand this program (although funds have not yet been allocated). Virginia's schools participate every year in a tornado drill run by VDEM, and the State has instituted formal Campus and Teen CERT programs – with two TTT trainings conducted, in addition to local Citizen Corps Programs already actively engaged with the school systems.
- The Preparedness in School Curriculum is part of the FY2007 SHSP package and will include a pilot program through which VDEM will assess the preparedness level of Commonwealth classrooms.

It is essential to continue to focus on providing emergency preparedness training, education and activity engagement to special needs populations in particular. This initiative will engage special needs populations in the design and implementation of a statewide outreach, education, training

and volunteer engagement plan to address the safety and security of all Virginians regardless of circumstance. Virginia recently held a series of workshops in each homeland security region focusing on special needs populations. Emergency caretakers, First Responders and at-risk consumers were the primary attendees of these meetings and learned about personal preparedness and assistance measures. Virginia will continue to develop statewide programs and workshops, such as the above, as part of this initiative.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative affects the Commonwealth of Virginia and all seven homeland security regions.

Program Management:

State and regional level stakeholder planning sessions will take place to implement this initiative. Key stakeholder groups representing the emergency services disciplines, local governments, State agencies, non-profits, faith-based groups, and service providers will include, but are not limited to:

- Virginia Department of Emergency Management
- Virginia Department of Health
- Virginia Department of Criminal Justice Services
- Virginia Department of Fire Programs
- Virginia Department of Social Services
- Citizens (including individuals with special needs)
- Organizations and groups supporting the special needs community
- Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters
- Faith-Based Initiatives
- State and Local Citizen Corps Council and work groups
- The Red Cross and other non-profit organizations
- The Virginia Commission for National and Community Service
- Volunteer Centers of Virginia
- Virginia Crime Prevention Association

Strengthen the Commonwealth's Ability to Maintain Continuity of Government/ Continuity of Operations Programs and Plans (COOP Targets 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7)

Description:

This initiative focuses on the maintenance of the overarching Commonwealth COOP Program, including the COOP plans of individual agencies and institutions as well as COG plans for the Governor's cabinet. VDEM in collaboration with the Office of Commonwealth Preparedness (OCP) will continue to promote a culture of preparedness and further enhance the overarching Commonwealth COOP Program through several methods:

- Training that focuses on the areas where agencies and institutions need the most improvement;
- Offering continual planning assistance and guidance in COOP plan and program development;
- Revising the current online COOP Toolkits to ensure they continue to reflect current planning standards and the changing needs of the executive branch agencies, institutions of higher education and local governments;

- Training on how to effectively test and/or exercise a COOP plan;
- Providing a self-assessment tool for agencies, institutions and local governments to use in evaluating their COOP plans;
- Collaborating with the legislative and judicial branches of government in the development of COOP plans.

Geographic Scope:

This initiative affects the Commonwealth of Virginia, including all executive branch agencies, institutions of higher education, and localities.

Program Management:

VDEM is responsible for overall management of the Commonwealth COOP Program while OCP provides policy development and strategic preparedness initiatives.

In order to maintain the momentum of the initiative and to further Virginia's mission of preparedness, VDEM has requested additional personnel and funding to manage the administrative aspects of the nationally recognized COOP program and meet the requirements of the annual assessment set forth in Executive Order 44.

Build upon existing critical resource capabilities and increase catastrophic logistic preparedness measures taken at the State and local levels (Targets Planning 2; COOP 3, 4, 6; Logistics 2)

Description:

This initiative will enhance resource management capabilities through the following mechanisms:

- Training of the nontraditional State agency personnel, local agency personnel, and volunteers.
- Development of a feedback mechanism for public agencies and private contracted vendors to provide a two-way information flow.
- Standardization of resources through use of NIMS typing procedures.
- Development of an accessible and user friendly single operational landscape to support decision makers in planning for, responding to, and recovering from an emergency.
- The development of a secure web-based Geographic Information System (which will be teamed with GPS technology) will make the deployment and recovery of critical resources more efficient. The Virginia Department of Emergency Management, the Virginia Information Technology Agency and the Virginia Department of General Services will assist with programming data, purchasing needs and the exercise capabilities to test this system as it's developed. Data to be entered into the databases will come from all entities in the Commonwealth.
- Development of logistics plans for each site, to include pre-purchased and pre-stocked food, water, bedding, and sundry items.
- Standardization of resource acquisition methodology and training programs
- Leveraging of State pre-contracted resources.

In several of the regional meetings, localities inquired about a resources list available to law enforcement officials regarding types of equipment recommended or available for specific needs as well as sources for purchasing equipment. A similar type of resource list for CBRNE, communications, and other equipment would be helpful and would help meet standards for technology and equipment. In addition, the State has been requested to explore ways for volunteer organizations (Fire/EMS) to be able to purchase equipment from State contracts.

Geographic Scope:

All localities within the Commonwealth will benefit from this initiative and will have access to the above referenced database. This system will be utilized by the Statewide Mutual Aid (SMA) program during all phases of incident management.

Program Management:

This investment will support all aspects of the Secure Commonwealth Initiative Strategic Plan, particularly Appendix K of the plan. It will enhance preparedness, response and recovery capability and will support the objective to develop consistent, integrated and coordinated regional disaster plans through collaboration of regional response information. The

Commonwealth will rely on the following agencies for management of this proposed program:

- Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
- Virginia Department of General Services (DGS)
- Virginia Information Technology Agency (VITA)
- Other Virginia State Agencies as needed
- Local and County Agencies directly and indirectly affected by the proposed program
- Outside Private Contractors either already under contract or to be contracted through the RFP and Bidding Processes
- The Management Teams will be as listed below:
 - Executive Oversight & Management Team- VDEM, DGS, VITA
 - Planning and Implementation Team
 - Training/Exercise Teams

E. Resources

Resources Expended in FY 2007

CCP Fact Sheet

All grant recipients must register their Citizen Corps Council on the Citizen Corps website, and manage their program and contact information listed on the site. In FY 2007, DHS allocated **\$328, 817** to Virginia for this program from the CCP grant funds and **\$500,000** from SHSP.

All financial reporting requirements for CCP funds are detailed in the grant guidance. The Virginia SAA, Department of Emergency Management, must coordinate the financial, programmatic, and administrative issues relating to the Citizen Corps mission with the State Citizen Corps mission with the State Citizen Corps Program Manager.

Shelter enhancements including development of a shelter tracking system and enhancing three shelters in central Virginia funded with SHSP at **\$2,000,000**.

Outreach funding to support Ready VA in statewide and some local initiatives **\$750,000** from 2006 and 2007 SHSP funds.

Multi-state Mass Care and Evacuation Planning: Virginia will join with Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, West Virginia and the District of Columbia to establish a coordinated catastrophic disaster plan. The plan will build upon existing State and National Capital Region plans to develop a regional approach to evacuation and mass care.

\$84,500

Future Resources Required

Mass Care (Sheltering, Feeding, and Related Services)

Phase 2, the Design and Construction Project, for adding quick electrical connections for back-up generators will require funding for shelter sites that cannot be included in the FY 06 or 07 funding. This initiative is vital to continue regional capability to support mass shelter efforts for all-hazards. These costs are estimated to exceed \$20,000,000 from 2007 through 2010.

Additionally, funding for continued support of an IT capability at each of the State managed shelters will enhance our ability for rapid registration and tracking, provision of beneficial disaster and human service programs to disaster victims, and communications within and between shelters. These costs are estimated at \$2,000,000 from 2007 through 2010.

In a catastrophic event, there exists the probability of need for a Family Assistance Center (FAC) to provide a safe environment for individuals and families to receive information about casualties and/or fatalities from authorized government officials. The Commonwealth has written a draft FAC plan but it has not been published yet. Local governments have not planned for such events and will require assistance in writing plans. Funding for one planner to support local and regional development of FAC plans and to support development and delivery of training for local government staff is needed. These costs are estimated at \$500,000 for 2007 through 2010.

Costs for regional planners and capabilities assessment provided in National Priority 2: Enhanced Regional Collaboration.

The costs to develop a standard emergency management planning process include staff, planning development and assessment. It is estimated between 2007 and 2010 approximately \$3,000,000 would be needed. Add to this the estimated costs to coordinate regional planning (2,000,000) these initiatives total \$5,000,000.

Funding to support citizen preparedness to include media, school materials, training, and staff is estimated at \$6,000,000 between 2007 and 2010 (\$2,000,000 each year including funding for each locality, Citizen Corps Councils and other programs).

